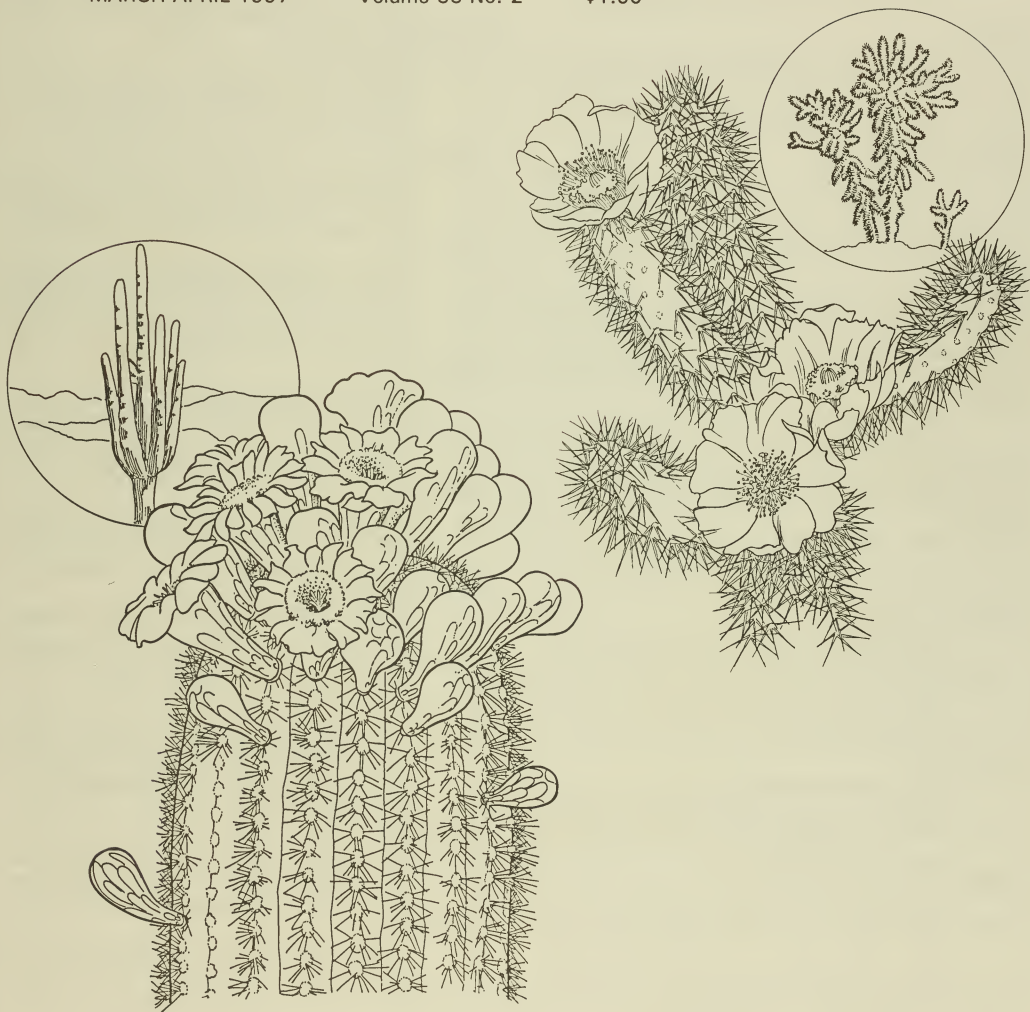


California GARDEN

MARCH-APRIL 1997

Volume 88 No. 2

\$1.50



HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

MAR. 1-2

IKENOBO IKEBANA CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO Spring Show. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat. & Sun. 11AM-4PM. Free.

MAR. 1-2

THE ARBORETUM OF L. A. COUNTY Cymbidium Orchid Sale. 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Sat.-Sun. 10AM-4PM. 818/447-8207.

MAR. 4

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION Information Seminar to discuss Sources of Materials, Types of Baskets. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Tues. 9:30AM-2:30PM. Free.

MAR. 8 & MAR. 22

BUENA CREEK GARDENS Classes. 8th-Landscaping the Mixed Border; 22nd-Plant Combinations. 418 Buena Creek Rd., San Marcos. Sat. 10AM. Call 744-2810. Free.

MAR. 8-9

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN FOUNDATION African Violet Show & Sale. 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula. Sat. Noon-4PM; Sun. 9AM-3PM. 310/544-1948. \$5.

MAR. 11

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION EASTER TOPIARY - Turtle Form. K. Walsh. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Tues. 9:30AM-2:30PM. 232-5762. Pre-registration \$40.

MAR. 15

DESCANSO GARDENS Lilac Day Seminar & Tour. 1418 Descanso Dr., La Cañada-Flintridge. Sat. 9AM-12:30PM. 818/952-4401. \$5.

MAR. 14 - 16

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY "ORCHIDS OLE" 51st Annual Orchid Show & Sale. Scottish Rite Memorial Center, Mission Valley. Fri. 6-9PM; Sat. 9AM-6PM; Sun. 9AM-4PM. 619/465-2297. In advance \$4. Door \$5.

MAR. 15-16

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL San Diego Chapter 119, 29th Annual Flower & Cultural Arts Show. Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat & Sun. 11AM-4PM. Free.

MAR. 18 - MAR. 25 - APR 1

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION Series-Flower Arranging Classes. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. V. West, Instructor. Bring Materials. Tues. 9:30AM-2:30PM. Limited class. Pre-registration. 232-5762. \$40.

MAR. 22-23

PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY "ORCHID A-FAIR" Show & Sale. San Marcos Community Center, 3 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos. Sat. Noon-5PM; Sun. 10AM-4PM. 749-8217. Free.

MAR. 22-23

EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY 19th Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Pk. Sat. & Sun. 10AM-5PM. Free.

MAR. 22 TO APR. 13

DESCANSO GARDENS Spring Festival of Flowers. 100,000 Tulips. 1418 Descanso Dr. La Cañada-Flintridge. 818/952-4401. \$5.

MAR. 26

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION Bus Tour. Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden of Claremont. Wed. Call 232-5762. \$26 & \$29.

APR. 4-5

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB Annual Flower Show. St. Peter's by-the-Sea Lutheran Church, 1371 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., Point Loma. Fri. 1-5PM & Sat. 10AM-4PM. Free.

APR. 5

SAN DIEGO MASTER GARDENER ASSOC. Seminar. University City H. S. 6949 Genesee Ave. Sat. 8AM-4PM. Call 694-2845. Pre-register by 3/26. 4 Classes \$24 or \$7 per class.

APR. 5-6

SAN DIEGO DAYTIME AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Show. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat. noon-4:00PM; Sun. 11:00AM-3:00PM.

APR. 8 & APR. 15

★SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION Basketry Series. "Happy Basket." M. Rosenberg K. Walsh. Casa del Prado, Balboa Pk. Tues. 9:30AM-2:30PM. Call 232-5762. \$40.

APR. 12-13

RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB Flower Show & Plant Sale. Avenida de Acacias/La Granada. Sat. & Sun. 10AM-4PM. 756-1554. Free.

APR. 12-13

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY 69th Rose Show & Sale. Balboa Park Club, Balboa Pk. Sat. 1-6PM; Sun. 10AM-4PM. Fee.

APR. 12-13

CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION 72nd Spring Flower Show. Spreckels Park, Coronado. Sat. 1-5PM; Sun. 10AM-4PM. \$2. (cont. on page 36)



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for 87 Years

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VOLUME 88

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MARCH-APRIL 1997

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COVER (see page 61 for description) California native cactus drawings by Stefan Bernath for *The Cactus Coloring Book*, Dover Publications, Inc., New York.

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FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden*, 232-5762 if you want the magazine sold at your show.

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APR. 15

★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Quarterly Dinner/Program. Jon Rebman of the Natural History Museum. Casa del Prado, Balboa Pk. Room 101. 5:45PM. 232-5762. Pre-pay Reservation \$5.

APR. 16-20

SAN FRANCISCO LANDSCAPE GARDEN SHOW "Gardens of the Silver Screen" Herbst & Festival Pavilions, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco. Wed., Thurs., Sat., Sun. 10AM-6PM. Fri. 10AM-9PM. Call 415/750-5108. \$12.

APR. 18

CALIFORNIA NATIVESCAPES BOTANICAL GARDEN Spring Gardens Tour. Rancho Bernardo & Escondido area Gardens. Fri. 10AM-3PM. Call 487-2629. \$5.

APR. 19

AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY, So. California Chapter. Spring Show, Sale & auction. Quail Botanical Gardens 230 Quail Gardens Dr. Encinitas. 10AM-3PM. Free

APR. 19-20

SAN DIEGO IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat. 1-5PM; Sun. 11AM-4PM. Free.

APR. 19-20

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB 66th Annual Flower Show & Plant Sale. 341 Heald Lane, Fallbrook. Sat. 2-6PM; Sun. 10AM-4PM. Free.

APR. 22

★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Introduction ART ALIVE designers. A. Green. Casa del Prado, Balboa Pk. Bring Materials. Tues. 9:30AM-2:30PM. Call 232-5762. \$20.

APR. 24

DEL MAR FAIR FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW Exhibitors Meeting. Administration Bldg. Thurs. 7PM. Call 792-4273. Pam Burch.

APR. 26-27

FULLERTON ARBORETUM 24th Annual Green Scene Garden Show. 60 Exhibitors. 1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton. Sat. 9AM; Sun. 10AM-4PM. 714/449-4790. \$5.

APR. 26-27

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB 17th Standard Flower Show. Valley Center Middle School, 28102 N Lake Wohlford Rd. Valley Center. Sat. 1:30-5:30PM; Sun. Noon-4PM. Free.

APR. 26-27

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB Spring Show. Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park. Sat. & Sun. 10AM-5PM. Free.

APR. 30 TO MAY 4

ART ALIVE 16th Annual Art & Floral Design. S.D. Museum of Art, Balboa Pk. Floral Designs & Lectures. Thurs. 11AM-4:30PM. Fri./Sat./Sun. 9AM-4:30PM. Admission fee for non-members.

EVERY SATURDAY -

FULLERTON ARBORETUM Gardening Classes. March and April each Saturday. 1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton. 714/773-3404. \$7.

MONTHLY - SECOND MONDAY

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY Speakers. Wagering Facility, Del Mar Racetrack. Mon. 6:30-9PM. 756-4126.

ONGOING EVENTS

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS 230 Quail Garden Dr., Encinitas. 9AM-5PM. 436-4032.

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE Walks. Poway. Sat & Sun 9AM. 486-7238.

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN Balboa Park by Organ Pavilion. Open 10AM-4PM Docent Tours, Tues., Fri., Sat., Sun., 232-2780. Donation.

BALBOA PARK: ONGOING PROGRAMS

SAT. OFFSHOOT TOURS 1 hour. Meet Botanical Lath House. 10AM. 235-1121. Free.

TUES. INTERPRETIVE WALKS Ranger guided. Meet Visitors Center. 10AM. 235-1211. Free.

APR 7 and MAY 5, 1997

PALOMAR DISTRICT DESIGN FORUM Floral Design Programs. 1st. Monday 1-3PM. The Courtyard 16935 West Bernardo Dr. Fee.

FUTURE**MAY 2**

DEL MAR FAIR Flower & Garden Show Entry Deadline. 792-4273 for Competitors Handbook.

MAY 3-4

VISTA GARDEN CLUB 63rd Flower Show & Plant Sale. Brengle Senior Center. 1400 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista. Sat. 10AM-5PM; Sun. 10AM-4PM.

MAY 3-4

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY 23rd. Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat 1-4PM; Sun. 10AM-4PM.

Deadline for submission to**HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR for**

May/June issue is Mar. 15. **SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION is not responsible for changes that are submitted late by the organizations.**

Gleanings . . .

RAIN PROBLEMS . . .

There are other problems with rain besides the obvious ones of runoff and muddy feet. To survive, a plant must have air and water in the soil. When it rains water can form puddles in low spaces and, if it lasts for some time, the plants will die. Another problem is compaction. When the soil is very wet, walking on it can cause the soil particles to pack together and drive all the air out. Another problem, if you have a deep mulch on the surface of the ground, is that the mulch can become soaked and hold large amounts of water. If it is not kept away from the stem of plants, even trees, they can die. So go out and push the mulch away from the stems, leaving a clear area of exposed soil. Also, when you are weeding—and this is a great time to weed—be sure you do not compact the soil with your feet.

WHAT'S DENDROCHRONOLOGY? . . .

Dendrochronology is the science of dating with tree rings. Every year a tree forms two new layers under the bark. These can be seen if a tree trunk is cut across. The light ring, that is usually broader, is formed during the growing season. The narrow dark ring is formed when little growth occurs, usually during the winter. The width of these rings depends primarily upon the temperature and the rainfall. All trees in the same region show the same amount of growth. By comparing rings, the relative age of each tree can be determined. Finding a firm date is the problem. Usually researchers look for rings with unusual growth that could have occurred in a known climatological period. Samples can be checked using radiocarbon dating techniques. Once a date has been established it is relatively easy to go forward and back in time. Each region has trees that are used for their chronological base. In the Southwestern United States the bristlecone pine (*Pinus longaeva*) is used because a tree can live over 4000 years. Dates have been determined up to 2000 BC. Archaeologists use dendrochronology to determine the date of buildings. Pieces of wood in the site can be dated by the rings.

Now you know how they put dates on the large cross-sections of trees often seen in museums. There is an excellent exhibit in the Natural History Museum in Balboa Park.

Yes, sometimes more than one set of rings is formed in one year, but this is very rare. These are called *false growth rings*.

CUT FLOWERS . . .

Flower show season is upon us. Do you ever wonder how the arrangers keep their arrangements so fresh looking for so long? They use formulas to treat the flowers before they are arranged. Everyone knows that the flowers should be kept in fresh water, but either of these two home-made formulas will help to keep the flowers. The bleach keeps bacteria from forming in the water, the sugar feeds the flower.

Add to a bucket of water:

Formula A: ½ teaspoon chlorine bleach and 1 can of a lemon-lime soft drink containing sugar.

Formula B: 1 tablespoon sugar, 2 tablespoons lemon juice, 2 teaspoons bleach.

Some decorators who do the floats for the Rose Parade fill the flower water picks they use one-half full with lemon-lime soda and top off with water. If the flowers are not glued on, individual flowers are placed in water picks and individually placed on the floats.

For Christmas on the Prado, the decorators for the Rose Society place each rose in a clear vial of plain water and hang it on the tree. When exhibiting for longer running shows, they fill the vials half-full of lemon-lime soda and top off with water.

HANDLES NEED CARE . . .

This is the time of year we often find we have forgotten a used garden tool out in the rain for a few days. This can cause the wooden handle to be rough and splintery especially if the original protective coating has worn off. (These splinters are difficult to remove and painful.) Often a light sanding and several applications of boiled linseed oil will correct the problem. (Let the coats dry before applying a new one.) The metal is probably rusted, too. So clean it off with steel wool and apply a coat of WD-40, the San Diego cure-all made right here. Sometimes, if the steel wool is used in conjunction with the WD-40, the rust will come off easier but the steel wool will be rust covered. WD-40 does not last too long, especially in damp weather. It is a good idea to give your garden tools a shot after every use, especially clippers.

If you notice that your clippers are chewing off, not cutting, now is the time to get them sharpened. We sometimes forget that other tools need sharpening. A sharp edge on a shovel or hoe will make the task easier. Most sharpening establishments will sharpen tools other than knives and scissors.

THOUGHTS ON NATIVE PLANTS

by BETTY NEWTON

NATIVE PLANTS THIS SPRING

NOW WE KNOW WHAT LIGHT, steady rains every week or two in September through January will do for the hills and native plants. One among many especially lovely views right now is from Wueste Boulevard south of Telegraph Canyon Road as you drive down to the ARCO Olympic Training Center on Otay Mesa. Around you are soft, grassy, green hills and non-native yellow mustard; in mid-ground lies Lower Otay Lake and, in the distance, 3,600-foot Otay Mountain.

For those of us who have left some of the natives in the landscape, California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) has responded strongly with fragrant, long, feather-like, sage-green, leafy plumes.

Nineteen ninety-three through last year, the natives hardly grew if you were letting nature take its course (and not irrigating them). You can green them up with an inch of water a month—that is, an overhead sprinkler run until straight-sided containers contain an inch of water.

When you drive in the backcountry, it is immensely satisfying to know the names of plants that you see when you stop—for instance the manzanita, with half-inch pink and white urn-shaped flowers blooming in January.

R. Mitchel Beauchamp's *A Flora of San Diego County, California* will help you find just which species you are looking at. That fine book is available (even mail order) from the gift shop at the Museum of Natural History. It is quite possible that you will need the auxiliary index of common names to this book. It's helpful if you have trouble remembering that yerba santa (from Ramona, Highway 52, and the Lagunas) is *Eriodictyon*. To obtain this, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to California Garden, 2125 Park Blvd., San Diego CA 92101-4792. No one said botanical names are easy, just worth learning, little by little.

I hope these line drawings of native shrub foliage will help you begin to identify our interesting native plants—endemic plants that evolved here and became what they are today—perfectly adapted to local coastal sage scrub, the chaparral, or the oak woodland.

Betty Newton teaches gardening classes at Grossmont Adult School and writes for the Sunday San Diego Union-Tribune. Photographs by the author.



California sagebrush



poison oak



flat-top buckwheat



hollyleaf cherry



chamise



wild honeysuckle

Drawings by John Jensen and Barbara J. Collins
not to scale

SEEING THE ENGELMANN OAK

YOU'LL WANT TO BE able to recognize the lovely Engelmann oaks if you drive out to Alpine, Ramona, or Japatul Valley. If you live there, they may be outside your door. This is the oak that served as a rallying point for stopping construction on Pamo Dam. It is a beautiful tree, important as habitat for certain endangered birds.

Sunset Western Garden Book, 1995 edition, describes it:

Quercus engelmannii,
ENGELMANN OAK, MESA OAK.
Evergreen. Zones 7-9. 14-21. Native
to Southern California. Wide-
spreading tree of character, to 60 feet
high. Leaves oval or oblong, 2 in.
long, usually smooth edged. In its
area it has the same cherished native
status as the coast live oak.

The tree isn't really rare. R. Mitchel Beauchamp's authoritative work, *A Flora of San Diego County, California*, uses the adjective "frequent" to describe how often *Q. engelmannii* is seen. From a botanist's point of view, the Engelmann oak is neither rare nor prevalent, abundant nor common. But it is frequently seen below 4,000 feet in oak woodland.

Perhaps you can already recognize and can show your children the coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), growing to 60 feet, with its 1½ inch wide, down-cupped, prickledges leaves that resemble holly.

Engelmann oaks share the same areas. You can see a few along Alpine Heights Road, off Via Dieguenos and Victoria Drive in Alpine. Beauchamp says it also grows in Fallbrook, Mesa Grande, San Felipe, Descanso, Buckman Spring, and Dulzura.

Once I learned what the leaf looked like and the overall color, I could begin to pick out this tree along the road. The Engelmann oaks have been with us all along. *They are the oaks with the blue-green cast.*

I'd describe the blue-green leaf as about two inches long, roughly oblong, rather smooth on the edges and flattish overall. But sometimes, they have prickles and, to



Engelmann oak leaves on left contrasted with coast live oak on right



Engelmann oaks in Japatul Valley

drive you crazy, the leaves may be a little scalloped.

It may grow to 60 feet, but most I've seen are smaller than their neighboring dark-green coast live oaks. Coming down from Viejas Mountain into the Viejas Indian Reservation, they are small, as if stunted. We're told that they grow below 4,000 feet, not in higher country.

Let's do justice to the Engelmann oak and recognize it and point it out—that lovely blue-green oak.

LIVING WITH NATIVES

IN INCORPORATING CHOICE NATIVE plants into your landscape, you have to realize natives can die every bit as easily as azaleas and gardenias. Azaleas and gardenias die of soil fungi when soil is overwatered and so do natives. Azaleas and gardenias, frequent first plant choices of beginning gardeners, also succumb to iron chlorosis when the soil becomes too alkaline. You seldom see chlorotic native plants. Those would show green veins and yellowed leaves.

Ideally, natives are planted in fall as weather cools, November through February is good. The soil should drain away water in one hour. However, the wild blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium*) and *Thalictrum* accept heavier, slower-draining soils. Frequent overhead watering is not suitable for natives. Does it rain here twice a week? Natives *do NOT* need water, especially the first weeks, then less as months wear on. A drip system that has one emitter at the base of each plant can be perfect. Then you learn to run it enough to get the plants rooted in and staying fresh looking, but not so much that they rot.

Of course natives need maintenance. That takes confidence on the part of the gardener, because we are used to thinking of these as *wild*.

You'll want to cut off any little dead branches or yellowed leaves and, eventually, dig out *some* roots where the root has spread out too far. And, you can fertilize very, very lightly in rainy months, or bury one tablespoon of Osmocote 18-6-12 or 18-7-10 tablets at the base of each plant at that time. □

NATIVES PROVIDE BIRD HABITAT

Whatever landscape design one has, some natives, or native surrogates, such as photinias, strawberry trees, etc., enhance native wildlife. Whatever level of irrigation one uses (and these [native and native-like] forms range from drought tolerant to *totally* water tolerant) depends on the species planted. Many immigrants, especially do not realize this.

Any emphasis gardeners can place on such plants can only help beautify and mellow-out even the most starkly URBAN environment.

Gerald Collier

Gerald Collier is a professional ornithologist and biology professor at SDSU.

Yellow mariposa lily
(*Calochortus*)
at Torrey Pines Reserve
in midsummer



Blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium*)



Lemonade berry sumac (*Rhus integrifolia*) fruiting
A native useful in landscaping



CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH NATIVE PLANTS

by PATT SIGG

IF YOU MISSED THE show at Anza-Borrego Desert, then come to the San Diego Wild Animal Park to see the show at the California Nativescapes Botanical Garden.

From the main gate, walk past the monorail entrance, follow signs across the suspension bridge and bear left up the paved road. Stop at the "Epiphyllum and Fuchsia Houses" and the "Bonsai Pavilion" if you have time. Continue up the road, cross the bridge at "Aloe Hill" and enjoy walking through the acclaimed "Baja Garden." A visitor at the native garden remarked, "It's quite a hike to get here, but it's worth it."

A self-guided tour pamphlet, available at the native garden entrance, has a layout map that locates plant groups or plant communities.

Spring brings blooms to the "Montane" or mountain meadow—blue-eyed grass, buttercups, and later goldenrod. "Growing aspens, Jeffrey pines, and white firs is not a sure thing when they grow naturally at much higher, cooler elevations," a volunteer said. "However, we are having more successes than failures," he added. Ceanothus and manzanita along with well-established Coulter pines create a mountain effect.

Giant saguaros that once flourished in Southern California but are rare in the wild, seem to stand as sentinels over the garden. In the "Low or Colorado Desert," brittlebush with its sunny daisy-like flowers and gray leaves is common, as it is in the garden. Smoke trees, palo verdes, ocotillos, desert willows, and smaller shrubs and cactus are flowering in spring and early summer. Across the trail from the saguaros are *Washingtonia* palms, the only palm native to California.

Strolling through the "Coastal Sage Scrub Area" you will find familiar plants because much of San Diego County's vegetation is coastal sage scrub. Fragrant sages, pungent California sagebrush, and yellow bush sunflower are typical shrubs. Flowering annuals and perennials are in bloom.

New this spring is the "Cultivar Garden" featuring California native plants that have been selected and propagated to enhance flower size or color.

Wild grapes cling to the rustic bridge spanning the natural stream that often flows until June. The path

follows the water through the willow and cottonwood shaded "Riparian (or streamside) Area." Bush monkey flowers, fuchsia-flowering gooseberry and wild roses bloom along the way. Watch for lizards basking on the warm rocks and rabbits darting into the bushes.

Back on the main trail, "Desert Transition" (pinyon [piñon]-juniper) is the area between the deserts and the mountains that supports a distinctive group of native plants including junipers and pinyons as well as scrub oaks.

Joshua trees, other yuccas, and various cacti grow in the "High or Mojave Desert" along with mesquite and creosote bushes. The two desert areas were established with drip irrigation but now survive on winter rains only.

Look for two unique trees in the cypress community—the Cuyamaca cypress that occurs in only one place in California, Cuyamaca Peak, and the Tecate cypress that grows in limited zones from the Mexican border to Orange County. The striking Matilija poppy and delicate tree poppy bloom among these trees in spring.

Another volunteer mentioned that she had been recognizing plants and learning their names. "When I went to the desert last week I saw some of the same plants and I knew their names—I was tickled with myself," she said with a grin. With many plants in the garden labeled with botanical and common names it's a good place to visit prior to a trip to the desert or mountains. As Henry Van Dyke wrote in *Little Rivers*, "To be able to call the plants by name makes them a hundredfold more sweet and intimate." □

Patt Sigg is project coordinator for California Nativescapes Botanical Garden, edits the Lake Hodges Native Plant Club Newsletter, and heads the Club's Spring Gardens on Tour fundraiser.

Drawings by Edmund C. Jaeger.

Members of the Lake Hodges Native Plant Club created and now maintain California Nativescapes Botanical Garden at the San Diego Wild Animal Park. The Club offers guided tours on second Saturdays (March 8, April 12 and May 10) at 10:00 AM.

Tours are free with Park admission. For more information call 487-2629 or 745-6955.



white fir (branch and green cone) cones to 5"



Coulter pine, leaf bundle and cone, 10-15" cones

A RUSTIC VICTORIAN GARDEN

by LAURIE ROBERTS

THE RUSTIC GARDEN WAS created in Victorian England to be a place of quiet beauty. In its simplicity, the garden reminded the owner of less complicated times away from large, dirty industrial cities. This rustic Victorian garden is designed entirely with native California plants.

The English collected plants from all over the world. They commissioned their greatest botanists and horticulturalists to discover new plant species even in far away California. The plant collectors came repeatedly to California and returned to the British Isles with our lovely native plants. California plants, from the time they were first introduced until even today, are cherished garden plants throughout England.

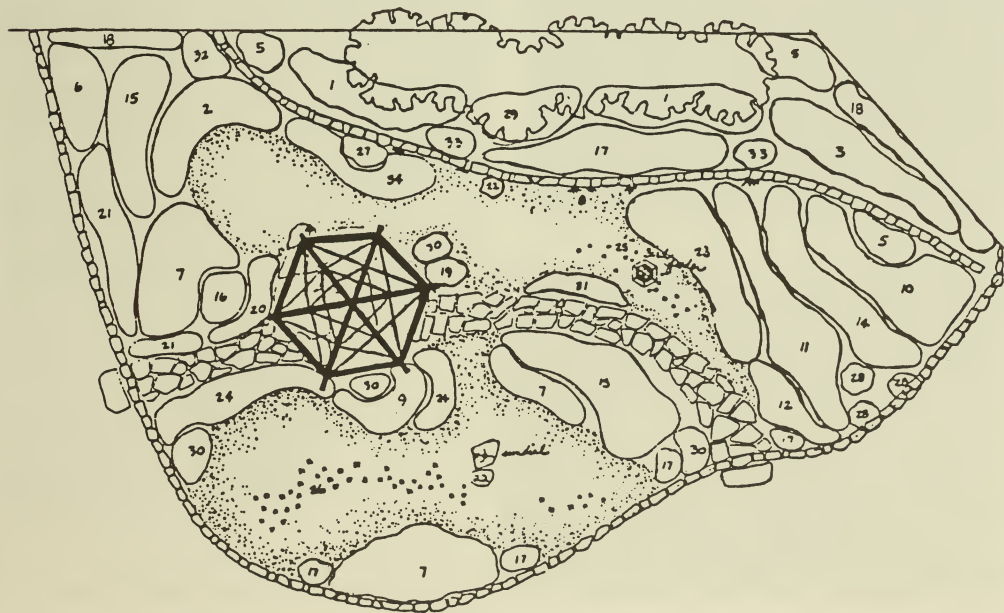
This garden plan is designed to bring authentic California native plants into use on a residential lot. The design brings beauty along with the ever present practical need to conserve water. Consider these plants in your front and back yard.

Go native, conserve water and enjoy beauty.

Laurie Roberts has a degree in Landscape Architecture from CAL POLY, but is now doing metalwork furniture and sculpture.

PLANT LIST

1. *Aquilegia eximia*, Van Houtte's Columbine
2. *Artemisia cynoccephala*, Beach Safewort
3. *Atriplex canescens*, Four-wing Saltbush
4. *Calystegia macrostegia*, Island Morninglory
5. *Ceanothus tomentosus*, Woolly-leaf Ceanothus
6. *Coreopsis maritima*, Sea Dahlia
7. *Diplacus Verity hybrid*, Monkey Flower
8. *Dudleya species*
9. *Erigeron glaucus*, Seaside Daisy
10. *Eriogonum parvifolium*, Bluff Buckwheat
11. *Eriophyllum confertiflorum*, Yellow Yarrow
12. *Erysimum concinnum*, Pt. Reyes Wallflower
13. *Galvezia speciosa*, Island Snapdragon
14. *Haplopappus squarrosus*, Goldenbush
[*Hazardia squarrosa*]
15. *Keckiella antirrhinoides*, Shrubby Penstemon
16. *Keckiella cordifolia*, Climbing Penstemon
17. *Oenothera berlandieri*, Mexican Primrose
18. *Oenothera hookeri*, Hooker's Evening Primrose
19. *Penstemon spectabilis* Royal Beard Tongue
20. *Penstemon azureus*, Azure Penstemon
21. *Perityle incana*, Guadalupe Island Rock Daisy
22. *Rosa Californica*, California Rose



23. *Salvia apiana*, White Sage
24. *Scutellaria austinae*, Skullcap
25. *Sisyrinchium bellum*, Blue-eyed Grass
26. *Sisyrinchium californicum*, Yellow-eyed Grass
27. *Symphoricarpos mollis*, Trailing Snowberry
28. *Tecoma stans*, Yellow Bells
29. *Thalictrum polycarpum*, Meadow Rue
30. *Trichostema lanatum*, Woolly Blue Curls
31. *Heuchera*, Coral Bells
32. *Lavatera assurgentiflora*, Tree Mallow
33. *Antirrhinum multiflorum*, Snapdragon
34. *Encelia farinosa*, Encienso □

This garden, sponsored by Weber Nursery, was designed for the 1988 Del Mar Fair.

WANT A PLEASANT NEW, NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION? VISIT THE SUBTROPICAL FRUIT GARDEN AT QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS by CAROL FRYE GRAHAM

THE LONGER AND WARMER DAYS of our approaching spring invite us to spend more time in our gardens, but just a short time ago we celebrated the New Year. Did you make any New Year's resolutions benefiting your garden? If you didn't or if you would like to add to your list of resolutions, I have a pleasant suggestion—visit the SUBTROPICAL FRUIT GARDEN at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas!

This demonstration Fruit Garden is one of the few in the state and the only one in San Diego County open to the public. Attracted by a natural interest in delicious fruits and repeatedly reminded of the health benefits of eating more fresh fruits, gardeners can there discover new and unusual fruits, compare different species, learn of those that may thrive in this area, and visualize the space required for their cultivation. The educational value, especially to gardeners, is enhanced by a self-guided tour leaflet, occasional guided tours, and demonstrations.

Visiting at different times of the year reveals different wonders. The gardener may experience first hand the delicious perfume of the macadamia in bloom, fully decorated in an abundance of lace-like pink or cream-colored flower strings. An observant visitor may discover a developing fruit that resembles a cross between a pineapple and a hand grenade. What is this bizarre looking fruit? The sign below the tree proclaims "Cherimoya." Even in the dead of winter, a visitor may admire the silvery smooth bark of a dormant fig tree. The fig is as stunningly handsome profiled totally leafless against a somber sky as it is beautiful decked out in its lush mass of summer foliage. All of these experiences and many more

add up to more than just a pleasant stroll through the Subtropical Fruit Garden. This garden strives to stimulate an interest in fruits, both common and exotic. One hopes the visiting gardener will take home an increased interest in fruiting plants and actively spread this interest by including more fruiting plants in their garden.

Visitors to the Subtropical Fruit Garden will find trees in various stages of maturity. The first trees were planted in this garden by dedicated volunteers back in 1973. Since then, many trees have been added and visitors should be pleased that a major enhancement of this garden is planned for this year.

Quail Botanical Gardens charges a \$3 per person admission fee (with the 1st Tuesday of the month being a free day). QBG is at 230 Quail Gardens Drive in Encinitas. More information about QBG may be obtained by calling 436-3036. If you have questions about the plants in the Subtropical Fruit Garden, please send a stamped self-addressed envelope to: California Rare Fruit Growers, 1420 Ivyglen Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024. □

Carol Frye Graham is a UCCE Master Gardener, a Master Composter Volunteer and a member of California Rare Fruit Growers.

BEE ALERT

A letter from the Cooperative Extension office gives this information.

SO-CALLED "KILLER BEES" MIGRATED into California and were first detected in Riverside County near Blythe in October 1994. They have since colonized all Imperial County, part of Riverside County, and the Anza-Borrego Desert region of San Diego County. Scientists believe that the bees will eventually colonize the rest of Southern California.

Colonies of Africanized honeybees are more dangerous than European honeybees, which beekeepers use to pollinate agricultural crops. Both types of bees look the same and have the same type of venom. Africanized bees help pollinate flowers and rarely sting people while performing this vital activity. However, colonies of Africanized honeybees are less predictable and defend their nests more aggressively than European honeybees. People or animals who go near a nest of Africanized honeybees may receive multiple stings. By learning about the bees and by taking precautions, we can live more safely with this new insect in our environment.

The Cooperative Extension office has an information pamphlet on Africanized honeybees and safety precautions. To obtain a copy send a self-addressed, stamped business size (#10) envelope to Bee Alert, 5555 Overland Avenue, Bldg. 4, San Diego CA 92123-1219. □



PAINTED LADIES OR: HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE WEEDS®

by PAT PAWLOWSKI

CHEESEWEED—YOU'VE GOT TO LOVE IT.

Why? any sane, logical gardener might ask. Why love a lowdown, good-for-nothing, (can we say it in polite company?) WEED!

Hold onto your straw hats! "Weed" is not necessarily a four-letter word. Remember, as a popular song said not too long ago, "love" also is a four-letter word. And if you love butterflies as I do—you can, you will, you must, love weeds. Actually, you don't have to love ALL weeds—just the ones that attract certain butterfly species.

To see why certain weeds attract certain butterflies, we've got to understand the butterfly life cycle: egg, larva, pupa, and adult butterfly. Let's use the eye-pleasing painted lady butterfly (*Cynthia cardui*, in some books, called *Vanessa cardui*) as an example.

The adult female painted lady will only lay a pale green, barrel-shaped egg on the leaves of certain plant species, including *Malva parviflora*, or cheeseweed. (I'll list some other plant species later in the article.) In a matter of days the egg will hatch into a tiny caterpillar or larva, who will munch on the leaves.

So we see that to attract egg-laying painted ladies, the alert butterfly gardener should include one or more of the larval-food plants among the plantings. After the larva gets to be about 1½" long, with a dark line along its back, and a yellow stripe on each side, and wild-looking dark branched spines all over, it will build itself a little shelter out of leaves, using silk threads to draw the leaves together.

After a week or two, the two-inch adult butterfly will emerge, an attractive pale orange with black and white markings. It will then take off in its characteristic frisky, erratic flight pattern, searching for nectar and another "lady" (or gentleman, as the case may be).

Since adult painted ladies (both male and female) only sip nectar, gardeners who worry about chomped-on leaves need only plant nectar-containing flowers. However, to attract the most painted ladies (butterflies), both larval and nectar plants should be included in the garden.

LARVAL-FOOD PLANTS:

Malva parviflora (cheeseweed) - Planting Directions: Go outside. Make sure no one is using chaise lounge. Then saunter over to that patch of weeds you've been meaning to pull out. Look for a nice green weed with circular, shallow-lobed, toothed leaves; seeds are in

cheese-shaped discs, hence the name. It will be a foot or so in height; less if it's still growing. It's not bad-looking, actually. When you see it (cheeseweed), sigh and say to yourself, "It'll be good to see some painted ladies around here, so I guess I'll just leave these alone." Go over to chaise lounge. Sit.

Other Malvaceae species that may be utilized by painted ladies include:

Althaea officinalis (marsh mallow) - Yes, indeedly, this is the plant that was once cultivated to make that popular confection and star of scout camping trips, the marshmallow. The gelatinous substance, which occurs in the roots, was also used medicinally to cure ailments such as cramps, convulsions, dandruff, hair loss, swollen glands, and "sharp fretting humours."

Malva sylvestris var. *mauritiana* (zebra mallow) - This one has clustered hollyhock-like flowers in white to rosy purple with darker veins. Flowers can be used in salads and the young leaves are good in salads or boiled like greens. This variety is available from J. L. Hudson, Seedsman, P.O. Box 1058, Redwood City, CA 94064. Price of catalog is \$1, and is well worth it.

Plants from other families (*Compositae*, *Boraginaceae*) as well as those below, are also utilized as larval-food plants, especially in years of abundance and migration.

Urtica species (nettles) - Ouch! These have stinging hairs on stems and leaves. I'd stick to the *Malva* family.

Lupinus species (lupines) - Perennials, shrubs and annuals. Many varieties; all need good drainage but grow in most soils.

Migrating painted ladies made headlines in 1992. Heavy spring rains caused a large population buildup of ladies in local desert areas. Some of the ladies then headed toward San Diego, delighting local residents as they passed through our area.

NECTAR PLANTS:

Painted ladies enjoy nectar from the following plants (remember, adult ladies don't eat leaves—they only swill nectar)

Taraxacum officinale (common dandelion) - Look out; another weed. Back to the chaise lounge. If you're up to it, however, you can pick some to make dandelion wine.

Eupatorium maculatum (Joe-Pye weed) - Yet another



Painted lady butterfly on lantana, photo by Bill Howell

weed toward which to apply your "live and let live" policy; besides, the flower heads are pretty.

Lantana - Evergreen shrub. Notice: Not a weed! Many colors. One of the best butterfly nectar plants.

Cosmos - A favorite of many butterfly species.

Buddleia (Butterfly Bush) - Possibly the best, or next to the best, flowering shrub for butterflies.

Trifolium fragiferum (strawberry clover) - A good ground or bank cover; tolerates heat, aridity, moderate salinity.

Ligustrum (privet) - Good-looking evergreen shrubs or small trees; flowers loved by butterflies.

Asclepias spp. (milkweed) - Perennial; flower nectar coveted by many varieties. Larval-food plant for monarch butterfly; consequently, should be included in every garden.

Melaleuca - Invaluable landscaping tree, easy to grow. Ladies enjoy nectar from bristle-like blossoms.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS:

Butterflies like sun—so make sure to place your cosmos, milkweed, etc. in the sunny part of your garden. The cheeseweed will have already arrived.

Butterflies also need a bit of shelter from the wind. Privet is a good shrub to use as a windbreak.

Last but not least, remember: don't use pesticides! Lots of times, they do more harm than good, since they wipe out beneficial insects along with the bad ones. (It's better to use preventive measures like washing leaves with soap and water occasionally.)

Now, it looks like it's time to go back to the chaise lounge.

CONCLUSION:

To sum up, we can see that not all butterfly gardening is strenuous. In fact, it can be delightful to lay about on the chaise lounge, eating your *Malva* salad and marshmallows, and gently sipping your dandelion wine, while the painted ladies flutter by.

And we can see that all weeds aren't bad. In fact, some are very good at attracting butterflies, and can lend a bit of wild grace to the yard.

Not to mention a sense of *joie de vivre*.

Text copyright by Pat Pawlowski, who is a writer and the wildlife garden designer for Animated Gardens.

POINT LOMA NATIVE PLANT PRESERVE

DON'T MISS THE PENINSULA'S native plant botanical garden in peak performance. The wildflowers put on a spectacular display, especially from February through April. The soft and frequent rains are ideal for seed germination and plant growth.

Come and see the California poppies, blue-eyed grass, woolly blue curls, penstemons, sages, and so on. The aroma of sagebrush and yerba santa is scenting the air.

The Preserve is part of Collier Park West, located near Soto and Greene Street. The location is clearly evident as you drive along Nimitz Boulevard. The entrance is at Greene Street and Mendocino, and entering into the park is like finding a hidden treasure.

John Noble will be leading tours of the park on the first Saturday of each month, February through June, at 1:00 PM. A \$5.00 donation to the park is voluntary. Please call 619/223-8051 for information on walks.

Credit and thanks go to the Point Loma Garden Club for its dedication, development, and maintenance of this City park. If you visit on a Monday morning you will usually see a small group of strong, not-so-young women. Youthful at heart, they work hard and are often rewarded with the little miracles of nature....

You, too, can be part of the park's creation and maintenance. If you would like to volunteer or make a donation, contact Mary Wick at 223-8723. □

Reprinted from "Earthroot & Skyflower," Volume 3-February 1997 by John Noble.

RING OUT THE BELLFLOWERS

by CATHERINE L. ZINSKY

FOR DIVERSITY, PROFUSE BLOOM, a look of delicacy, yet practically a pest-free plant for the perennial border, look toward the genus *Campanula*. With nearly three hundred species to select from, the most difficult part of having one will be in the choosing.

Campanulas (pronounced kam-pan'-yew-la) are often referred to as bellflowers. This is due to the generally bell-shaped flowers produced by most in this genus, but this is a rule, not an absolute. *Campanula pyramidalis*, for example, is star-shaped, and is quite flat when fully opened. Still, for the most part, the flowers do mimic bells of the most delicate and charming appearance.

With such diversity in choice, it follows that there is also diversity in size and color. Overall, colors range from white and pinks to numerous shades of blue, from the palest of blues to the deeper hues. Plant size is just as variable, being as tiny as 4 inches to as majestic as 6 feet! With such a wide range of size and color, surely there is a campanula to fit a few choice spots in your garden.

One of my favorite is *Campanula garganica*. Don't be misled by the sound of its name; this campanula is not gargantuan at all, but diminutive. It's a compact dwarf of about 4-6 inches high. My own specimens were started from seed many years ago. It's a perennial that begins spreading out from a basal crown in early spring, only to burst into a profuse bloom of violet stars come mid-to-late spring. Once established in partial shade (no direct afternoon sun, please), *C. garganica* is quite drought tolerant. This does not mean "no water," merely that it doesn't require watering as often as say, chrysanthemums. Though *C. garganica* does reseed, it is not invasive, and is the perfect specimen for a semi-shaded rock garden or hard-to-find-a-plant-for crevice.

Another favorite is *C. glomerata* 'Joan Elliot'. This cultivar has more flower spikes than most glomeratas, and is an excellent specimen for partial shade. The leaves are basal (meaning at the base) and subsequently sustain a low growth habit. The flower spikes, however, rise 1-2 feet above this green blanket, waving a silent cluster of purplish-blue bells. 'Joan Elliot' has a more spreading habit than *C. garganica*, having underground tendrils, but so far in my garden it is still quite manageable. 'Joan Elliot' also requires a more regular watering cycle than does *C. garganica*.

A biennial that is simply mandatory to any cutting garden is *C. medium*, commonly called Canterbury bells or cup-and-saucer. This is a taller bellflower, reaching as high as 4 feet. It blooms in late spring, though as a biennial must be sown the previous season. Biennials are generally not a favored plant in my garden, simply

because they do require that extra growth period before blooming, only to seed and die. Canterbury bells, however, are an exception for me. They are so stately and showy that they're well worth the wait. The flowers—of which there are many—can be singles or doubles. The common call name of cup-and-saucer is an accurate description, for the largish bells of the flower (1-2 inches) flare out at the bottom, giving the appearance of a cup set on a saucer. *C. medium*, probably has the widest color range of any of the campanulas, coming in various shades of purple, pinks, and white. If you've never grown this exceptional campanula, I highly recommend that you consider it.

Another favorite of mine that is similar to the Canterbury bells is *C. azorina vidalii*. It is shorter (24 inches) and has the advantage of being a half-hardy short-lived perennial (vs. a biennial). Fortunately it sets seed, and is easy to duplicate. The plant itself is a neatly compact branching species with silvery-green foliage. The cup-and-saucer-like pink flowers are remarkable in their beauty. They feel almost waxy and look like porcelain. Truly! They do not look like live flowers. As a cut flower *C. azorina* is superlative, being long-lived in the vase or arrangement.

(Editor's note: *C. azorina vidalii* is a seed company name. Books list a *C. vidalii*, from the Azores, but in some cases their description does not match the so-called *C. azorina vidalii*.)

Culture of campanulas naturally varies, but a good rule of thumb is to plant in partial shade where there is good drainage. (Partial shade is especially important inland.) Most campanulas can take a fair amount of neglect, but do bait for snails and watch for earwigs, especially with the Canterbury bells.

Good luck and happy gardening. . . □

Catherine L. Zinsky is a free-lance writer for garden and canine publications. Photo by Betty Newton.



Falling stars (*Campanula isophylla*) spill from basket.

ARTICHOKES

by ROBERT HORWITZ

ARTICHOKES SURELY RESEMBLE THISTLES, which you can see quite clearly when you examine the edible part of an artichoke carefully. The artichoke is a perennial plant (*Cynara scolymus*) that will bear its edible part in late spring in most areas. During the high heat of the summer it can go dormant and stay that way for a few months until the weather cools off. In some inland areas there are two blooming periods in a year.

Artichokes should be planted about four feet apart, as the foliage, which is grey-green in color and ragged in texture, gets quite large. This separation will give the plant root and foliage room to optimize flower production. The artichoke also makes a very attractive grouping of foliage just for garden color, and some gardeners let the flowers open to display the vivid purple center surrounded by dark green bracts. After they open, the flowers can be cut and dried for vase and table decorations. The flowers will last a long time dried.

Artichokes grow best along the cool California coastal areas and the capitol of the artichoke world is in Watsonville near Santa Cruz. This is where most of the commercial growing takes place. In early spring, young artichoke shoots are available in nurseries as bare-root plants, or some places will pot up the shoots to keep the roots intact and sell them that way. Before planting, dig the earth up and till, incorporating lots of organic material and a slow release fertilizer. Plant the shoots with soil up to the base of the shoots and tamp down firmly. Water in well and keep the root zone damp throughout the growing season. The first year after planting, you may not get any fruit, but do not despair as the roots are growing and in the following year, you will get fruit. This is manifested by one main flower stalk coming out from the center of a group of leaves. The flower bud on the top of the stalk will be the largest and down along the stem will be lesser buds. They are ready to pick for eating when the bud has swollen with growth and the bracts show an indication of opening up.

If you want the flower for display, leave it on the plant until it opens up fully, then pick it with a long piece of stem. To dry, store it in a cool dry place upside down. The lesser buds are edible too and are very popular among baby vegetable aficionados. It is the smaller buds that are processed and put up in jars with herbs and oil that are sold for appetizers.

A word of caution in handling the buds: On the tips of the bracts are sharp little spines that like to scratch the unwary hand and can even penetrate the skin. It might be wise to wear gloves when picking and handling buds.

BOILED ARTICHOKES

This title makes them sound mundane, but it is the stuff you dip the leaves into and spread over the heart that make them divine. Eating boiled artichokes is an art. They can be eaten either hot or cold. After cooking, serve them with a dip. The eater pulls off one leaf at a time and dips the meaty end into the dip. He then scrapes off the meaty part (with the dip material), with his teeth, eating that part and discarding the rest of the leaf. Continue this eating process until the leaves get too small, then pull a bunch of them loose and dip the ends into the dip and bite off the bottom of the leaves up to where the softness ends. Scrape away the hairy-like brush material that covers the heart and relish this most delectable part of the artichoke.

Use one artichoke per person.

- 4 artichokes
- 1 large pot three-quarters full of water
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 cloves of garlic, peeled and sliced in half
- 1 teaspoon oil
- ½ cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon of lemon juice
- ¼ cup grated parmesan cheese

Cut the stems of the artichokes flush with the bottom of the bud. Place in the water with the salt, garlic and oil. Bring to a boil and simmer for about 45 minutes. The artichokes are done when you can pull off an outer leaf with ease and the meat scrapes off easily. Drain. Mix the mayonnaise, lemon juice and parmesan cheese together. Serve each artichoke with one-fourth of the dip. Be sure to have a large bowl handy for the inedible parts to be thrown into. Artichoke is great either hot or cold.

Staffer's note: I leave about 1 inch of stem, if freshly picked it will be edible. I find they fit into a smaller pot if I cut about an inch off the top. Being old-timers and not so fancy, we just boil 'em and dip 'em in melted butter! □



bellflower



Now is the Time . . .

A CULTURAL CALENDAR OF CARE FROM OUR AFFILIATES, UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, AND CALIFORNIA GARDEN STAFF

AFRICAN VIOLETS

Helen LaGamma

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER only when soil is dry when watering from the top.

TO KEEP all areas clear of plant clutter. Use only clean sterile equipment. Have the area well ventilated.

TO PROVIDE 12 to 14 hours of indirect lighting daily.

TO PROTECT plants from any sudden change in temperature—maintain 65-75°F.

TO POT UP babies in 2½-inch pots using a light, porous, sterile soil with good drainage.

TO PRACTICE preventive measures against insects and disease—have clean hands and clothing.

BEGONIAS

Margaret Lee

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PUT down tubers to sprout.

TO CLEAN all pots and plantings of dead wood, leaves, and old debris.

TO PROTECT roots with a mulch.

TO START feeding; give ¼ strength of any good all-purpose plant food if feeding once a week, ½ strength if twice a month; full strength if once a month.

TO CONTROL disease and pests by spray and bait.

TO KEEP plants moist, but not wet.

TO START new plants from leaves, cuttings, or seeds.

BONSAI

San Diego Bonsai Club

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATCH watering program according to the rains.

TO GRAFT deciduous plants.

TO REPOT plants; shape to conform to the container.

TO REMEMBER deciduous flowering plants need repotting every year, except quince. Conifers may go three to five years without repotting.

TO ADD small amounts of chelated iron or acidifying preparation to correct alkaline (salt) buildup.

TO WATCH for aphids and other pests.

TO WAIT until April to feed. Use a high nitrogen fertilizer for foliage growth; high phosphorus type to set flowers and fruit.

TO USE ¼-strength fertilizer spread several weeks apart, rather than using full strength only once. Measure accurately. Too much fertilizer can burn roots and cause leaf damage.

BROMELIADS

Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CHECK plants for scale especially during spring when scale is most likely to appear.

TO TREAT plants with scale by dipping or spraying them thoroughly with a solution of Cygon 2E according to directions on the label. Drain excess solution from plant.

TO KEEP plants clean. Cut spent blooms and dead leaves.

TO REPOT your favorite plants in new potting media. This helps them to develop a healthier growth.

TO ALWAYS provide good drainage and never allow the soil to become soggy.

TO FERTILIZE only during the warm months, once a month, preferring a fertilizer high in acid. Use ½ the recommended strength on the label.

CACTI AND SUCCULENTS

Joseph A. Betzler

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PREPARE plants for spring growth by checking soil and pot condition—transplant if needed. Soil mix should be light and water should flow freely through it.

TO FERTILIZE your plants regularly.

TO START acclimating the protected plants to outdoor conditions once again, after danger of frost is gone.

TO PROTECT sensitive plants from the rain and sun; bright sun can burn indoor plants.

TO KEEP newly purchased plants separated from your collection until they show signs of good growth without any pests or disease; treat any pest soon, watch for snails also. The wet winter might bring you rodents; mice and rabbits are cute but no cacti are safe from their nibbles. Protect your plants.

CAMELLIAS

E.C. Snooks

NOW IS THE TIME

- TO KEEP** up a proper watering schedule especially if little rain occurs.
- TO FEED** with cotton-seed meal or commercial fertilizer.
- TO KEEP** blooms picked up to control petal blight.
- TO ADD** iron for good leaf color.
- TO TRANSPLANT** older plants or plant new ones.
- TO PRUNE** out any unwanted growth—open the center to allow air circulation.
- TO LOOK** for loopers and aphids—spray with malathion or Cygon.
- TO LOOK** for new varieties while still in bloom.

DAHLIAS

Abe Janzen

NOW IS THE TIME

- TO PLACE** tubers in starting medium such as vermiculite or sand. Keep in a warm place to sprout; beware of too much moisture.
- TO PREPARE** the planting area by adding humus and fertilizer.
- TO PLANT** sprouted tubers, sprout side up, six inches below ground surface, two inches from stake, and cover with two inches of soil.
- TO MOISTEN**, but do not keep wet.
- TO PROTECT** new growth from snails.
- TO BE SURE** to drive stake into ground before planting tubers.

EPIPHYLLUMS (Orchid Cactus)

George French

NOW IS THE TIME

- TO FEED** epiphyllums with a low nitrogen fertilizer.
- TO CHECK** trellis to be sure plants are well secured.
- TO GIVE** plants filtered sunlight to encourage development of buds.
- TO BAIT** for snails. Granules have proven effective when placed at the base of the plant. They leave little or no residue.
- TO CHECK** for drainage in April. Do not move plants at this time, but continue to feed for bloom; use Hi-Bloom or bloom-builder type to promote healthy buds and bloom.
- TO TAKE** cuttings.
- TO REMOVE** buds from a new plant; that energy needs to go to the root system.

FERNES

San Diego Fern Society

NOW IS THE TIME

- TO FERTILIZE** with high nitrogen liquid or pellets.

TO REMOVE dead fronds.

TO CATCH rain water for plants in covered areas.

TO DIVIDE, repot or add leaf mold to those plants needing it.

TO SPRAY for aphids and scale.

TO PLANT spores.

TO USE vitamin B₁ after dividing; use per instructions on label.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO IRRIGATE when new growth begins, if the soil is not moist, to a depth of 3 feet.

TO APPLY fertilizer high in nitrogen. Most mature fruit trees require the equivalent of one pound of actual nitrogen annually. Divide the amount of fertilizer required into three equal lots and apply them six weeks apart, starting in the spring after new growth begins.

TO BEGIN thinning fruit of apples, pears, and stone fruit when they are about ½" in size. Space fruit 4 to 6 to inches apart or leave one fruit per spur. Thin early maturing varieties earlier and heavier than late maturing varieties.

TO CHECK trees for pests. Wash foliage periodically with a forceful spray of water to dislodge aphids, spider mites, and whiteflies. If a pesticide is needed, use a chemical that has short residual activity, such as insecticidal soap or pyrethrin to protect beneficial insects.

TO KEEP ants off trees by wrapping a band of heavy paper around the trunk and applying a barrier of Tanglefoot on it, or by scattering diazinon granules on the soil around the trunk.

TO SPRAY apples after bloom to control codling moth (wormy fruit). Apply diazinon after petals have fallen and twice more at two-week intervals.

TO APPLY sulfur dust to control powdery mildew on grapes when new shoots are 6, 12, 18, and 24 inches long. Then, every two weeks or as needed until harvest.

FUCHSIAS

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PRUNE plants not done earlier.

TO PINCH new growth on plants pruned earlier. As the third set of leaves forms on new growth, pinch out the terminal set. This will result in a bushier plant.

TO FERTILIZE with any good balanced fertilizer.

TO WATCH for insects and treat accordingly.

TO WATER thoroughly the day before spraying.

TO CONTINUE taking cuttings from prunings.

TO CLEAN up fallen leaves, blooms and other trash.

GERANIUMS (*Pelargonium*)

Carol Roller

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER thoroughly when plants become somewhat dry. Allow excess water to drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible. Provide the best possible drainage. Watch for botrytis (gray mold) and treat it immediately.

TO CONTINUE feeding with a balanced fertilizer containing micronutrients. Dissolve in water, using less than the recommended amount as often as needed to keep the plants growing well. As the soil becomes warmer, long-term pellets may be used.

TO CONTINUE pest and disease control, using all products according to the manufacturers' directions.

TO PRUNE ivies and zonals if they have not been pruned. Avoid cutting regals, scented, and related types because their flowers will be lost by pruning them at this time.

TO MAKE cuttings from the ivy and zonal prunings, if desired.

TO REMOVE faded flowers and old, discolored leaves.

TO ROTATE pots regularly to produce well-shaped plants.

GREEN THUMB ITEMS

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PLANT high-moisture plants where fire-retardant plants are needed. Sea fig, commonly planted along freeways, has 60% moisture. Other desirable plants are strawberry tree, carob tree, pineapple guava, pomegranate, oak, oleander, cape honeysuckle, dwarf coyote bush, ice plants and other succulents.

TO START feeding houseplants a liquid houseplant food when the growing season begins in March.

TO CUTBACK to the basal foliage some herbaceous perennial plants: mums, columbine, coreopsis, some true geraniums, ornamental grasses, evening primrose, many salvias, and Shasta daisies.

HERBS

John Noble

NOW IS THE TIME

TO DESIGN or redesign your herb garden. Have the perennials create the borders.

TO PRUNE back overgrown lavender, rosemary, thyme, bay, marjoram, and mint. For a formal look, use hedge shears, for a natural appearance, use hand pruners. Dry cuttings for kitchen use.

TO DIVIDE and replant, or give to friends, any yarrow, sweet violet, comfrey, creeping thyme, society garlic, ground marjoram, horsetail, and mint.

TO PLANT annuals from seeds or starts. Dill, basil,

cilantro, anise, and borage all enjoy the spring growing season.

TO PROTECT seeds and starts from snails by using copper strip barriers, natural traps, and hand picking.

TO AMEND the soil with organic compost.

IRIS

San Diego/Imperial County Iris Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO START feeding low nitrogen, all-purpose and liquid fish fertilizers.

TO WATER regularly if no rain.

TO CLEAN beds and keep weeds under control.

TO WATCH for pests—systemic sprays applied as a drench will usually free iris of aphids and thrips.

TO GIVE Japanese and Louisiana irises an application of an acid food—a camellia-type fertilizer is convenient to use.

NATIVES

Jeanine De Hart

NOW IS THE TIME

TO SEE the beautiful wildflowers in the Anza-Borrego Desert and in your own community.

TO TAKE note of the plants you would like to add to your garden and make a note to purchase them in the fall.

TO SEE the beautiful display of *Ceanothus* at Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden.

TO BE diligent in spreading snail bait. If you don't wish to use snail bait, buy bran at a feed store and spread it around. The snails will eat it, it will swell up inside, and they will die! Not harmful to the environment or to children or pets.

TO FINISH planting any natives not yet in the ground.

TO CONTINUE supplementing winter and spring rains through May.

ORCHIDS

Charles Fouquette

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REPO *Cattleya* plants that have exceeded their pots and are showing new eyes.

TO MOVE *Cymbidium* plants that are in spike to a shadier spot to lessen fading.

TO PROTECT *Cymbidium* plants from possible hail and rain.

TO SET OUT slug and snail bait, check for red spider, scale and mealybug. Try to keep ants out of your domain: they bring aphids and other pests.

TO CONTINUE even fertilizer feeding of *Phalaenopsis*: plants in bloom should be protected from drafts.

TO GROW the *Oncidium* alliance, *Odontoglossum*, *Brassia*, etc. with some research. Air movement, light, feeding, and good sodium-free water are some requirements for successful growing.

TO CHECK air cooler and fans; they may need oil.

TO FLUSH and reset any water filters or reverse osmosis units.

TO WATCH for plants that may get sunburned and protect them.

ROSES

Marianne Truby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER deeply to encourage your bushes to produce strong stems and healthy foliage.

TO WATER roses day before feeding or spraying and again after feeding.

TO VARY the products used to provide the essential nutrients and micro-nutrients for your roses. Roses require a balanced diet to produce the blooms for which we grow them. High nitrogen will produce unusually tall bushes, which in many cases appear out of place in our home landscape, and which has contributed to too many negative comments about unattractive bushes. Along with the need for organic materials we now recognize that nitrogen alone will seldom produce the quality and quantity of bloom we strive to produce.

TO VISIT your roses often to observe and enjoy their growth and revel in the beautiful early foliage.

TO CHECK daily for signs of unwanted pests, early signs of nutrition deficiency and/or early weeds and grasses.

TO CONTROL aphids by washing them off with a strong stream of water from the hose in the early morning.

TO CONTROL thrips damage to blooms by using OrthineX (available in an atomizer spray) on blooms just as they begin to drop their sepals. Thrips become very active when the local uncared for vegetation dries up because of lack of moisture. Thrips distort the blooms by sucking the moisture from the petals and the bloom fails to open properly.

TO RECORD your garden maintenance efforts. Time does fly when you're having fun!

TO PREPARE to adjust your schedule to weather conditions. Foggy cool days are certain to encourage mildew in the rose garden and an early heat wave means you must water, water, water. To a limited degree washing off your bushes in the early morning will delay mites and even early mildew.

TO LEARN rose terminology. Particularly become acquainted with the difference between a sucker and a basal break! A sucker is unwanted and a basal

break is a beginning to a new cane, which is what we are trying to produce so we can cut off the old worn out canes at next year's pruning!

TO ENJOY your roses during these months, weather permitting, the months of glory for roses and rosarians.

TO ATTEND garden shows and appreciate all the wonderful plant materials that abound in Southern California.

TO PLAN for replacement varieties of roses during the growing season by observing carefully roses in gardens in your area. Usually roses that perform well in the coastal areas will not have enough petals to produce good roses in the inland areas. Avoid roses that are susceptible to mildew.

VEGETABLES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension
NOW IS THE TIME

TO PREPARE soil for planting by incorporating compost and a complete fertilizer high in phosphorus. Apply chemical fertilizers just before planting. If manures are used, apply them at least two weeks before planting and irrigate to leach salts from the surface soil. Apply twenty pounds of poultry manure or fifty pounds of steer manure per hundred square feet.

TO MAKE a last planting of cool season vegetables such as leaf lettuce, beets, and kohlrabi that will mature before hot summer weather arrives.

TO SET OUT tomato transplants after danger of frost has past. Delay planting beans, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, melons, peppers, and squash until the soil is warm. Use hot caps or floating row covers to promote faster growth.

VEGETABLES, ANNUALS

from UC Cooperative Extension Publications
NOW IS ONE OF THE BEST TIMES IN FROST-FREE AREAS

TO PUT IN TRANSPLANTS OF: cabbage and eggplant.

TO PUT IN SEEDS OF: beans (lima, pole, snap), beets, carrots, chard, corn, cucumbers, endive, gourds, kale, lettuce (leaf), melons (cantaloupe, casaba), okra, onions (green), parsley, parsnips, peas (bush), peppers, radishes, spinach (in March), squash (summer and winter), tomatoes, turnips, and watermelon — ageratum, amaranthus, balsam, canterbury bells, carnations, celosia, coleus, cosmos, daisies (African), dusty miller, four o'clocks, impatiens, lobelia, marigold, morning glory, nasturtium, petunia, phlox, portulaca, salvia, scabiosa, statice, tithonia, verbena, vinca, zinnias.

ABOUT BROMELIADS

by ROBERT HORWITZ

THE BROMELIAD IS A marvelous plant that will suit balcony and small garden culture very well, performing its best in potted conditions and requiring very little water. Another of its virtues is that it provides color year round with its interesting leaves and depending on the variety, striking flowers that last a long time and some of these lend themselves to being dried for vase displays.

Bromeliads require a coarse, fast draining soil base. Sandy loam mixed with small fir bark pieces best achieves this. The root structure is usually small, growing only large enough to support the plant in its container. Bromeliads grow slowly, so they will seldom need to be dug up, split, and replanted. They require little, if any, fertilizer and water, even in the summer. When watering is required, water well to get the soil wet and fill the crown with water. Detritus (debris) that falls into the crown will usually provide enough nutrients, although a very weak solution of fertilizer would be much appreciated.

The plant itself consists of a rosette of strap shaped leaves. The leaves come in colors of dark to light green—speckled, striped, with overtones of purple, red, pink, plus many combinations thereof. They can be as wide as four or five inches down to less than a half-inch and grow in stubby roundish forms or long almost grassy forms. The flowers usually come out from the center of the rosette or hide coily down inside the leaves. Most flowers are compound consisting of many little individual ones bunched together or extending along a stalk. Their colors vary from inconsequential to very striking. Altogether, the bromeliad provides lots of interesting color.

After the central plant blooms, it slowly will die away, but not before it propagates itself by producing small sideshoots called pups that eventually grow into flower-bearing size. They can be removed from the parent plant and potted to grow on their own, preferably after they've reached one-third of the size of the parent plant. The greatest danger of losing a transplant like this comes from overwatering.

If you want to hurry nature up a little in respect to having the bromeliad produce flowers, take a mature one that is due to bloom and place an apple in the center of the rosette. Cover the plant with a large transparent plastic bag and tie it closed. The apple releases a gas similar to

the kind of gas produce wholesalers use to speed up the ripening of tomatoes, bananas, and other fruit. It is called ethylene. This gas will stimulate the bromeliad to get its hormones together to hasten flower production. Keep the bag over the plant for two or three days, then remove it. Soon, you will see the buds forming down in the rosette for the coming blossoms. You can even wash off the apple after it has done its duty and eat it. Be wary of the leaf sides as their spines can scratch! □

Robert Horwitz is a retired aerospace engineer, and is a regular contributor to local publications. He grows the plants he describes in Point Loma.



Some bromeliads have a cup, formed by a rosette of leaves, which holds water or anything of suitable size.

TILLANDSIA

SOME OF THE EASIEST plants to grow are the tillandsias. With few exceptions, in general they do not take up as much space as most other bromeliads. Some can be potted, but most do best when mounted (with Tilly Tacker, a glue sold in some nurseries) on driftwood, cork bark, or in a tree.

Filtered light and some misting when humidity falls below 50% is all that is needed; but add one-quarter strength fertilizer now and then, and you'll be amazed by how beautiful they'll get. Growing beautiful bromeliads is not an exact science because everyone has a different way of doing it. Give it a try, and you'll get hooked. It's very rewarding. There will be a San Diego Bromeliad Society Show on May 3rd and 4th and a Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park Show on May 24th and 25th. □ STAFF

NEW PEST ON AVOCADO

by GARY BENDER

IT IS APPARENT THAT some groves in the northern counties have a new pest to deal with in the avocado orchards. This time it is a thrips [Editor's note: For those of you who are unaware, as I was, "thrips" is both singular and plural.] that looks very similar to citrus thrips (*Scirtothrips citri*). According to USDA taxonomist Steve Nakahara the insect is new to this country and is undescribed, although it is in the same genus as citrus thrips.

The pest was first noted by PCA Charlie Gribble in an orchard in Saticoy and another in Oxnard this July. The pest has since been found in over forty other groves in that county. At this point we do not know the full extent of the infestation. According to fruit and leaf damage symptoms, the pest has been found in Orange, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara Counties. The thrips is a weak flyer, but its spread can easily be helped by contaminated clothing and equipment. Picking bins are also a potential source of contamination, especially since we do not know the pattern of the infestation.

The damage caused by the thrips consists of scarring to young fruit, apparently starting near the neck of the fruit, gradually spreading over the whole surface. Feeding on the fruit stem can cause fruit drop. The thrips will feed on both surfaces of the leaf; causing random feeding lines on the undersurface along veins, and darkened, leathery patches on the top surface. The primary problem of the pest is not defoliation, but fruit scarring and drop.

Since this is a new pest, we do not know the full biology of the insect. Until we know more, extreme phytosanitary precautions should be taken, such as:

- 1) Become familiar with what the pest looks like and the damage it can cause, then look for it. Report it to your PCA, Farm Advisor, or County Agricultural Commissioner's office.
- 2) Have clean clothing, picking equipment, and vehicles when going to a grove.
- 3) Hose off (using soapy water when available) before moving equipment from one grove/block to another.
- 4) The primary concern for San Diego growers is to make sure that their packers are sanitizing bins that bring fruit down from the northern counties. Find out from your packer what they are doing about cleaning the bins, and double check your bins to make sure they do not arrive at your grove with leaf trash in the bottom of the bins.

The only way to reduce the spread of this pest is through self-regulation. Everyone should be alert and report any findings to the Agricultural Commission. □

Gary Bender is a University of California Farm Advisor.

NEW PEST CONTROL PROCEDURE FROM UC IS SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT

from UC-John Stumbos

GRAB YOUR HAT, goggles and boombox . . . time for some serious avian pest control. Insert tape, crank up volume and the distressed "caw"-ry of *Corvus brachyrhynchos*—the American crow—will induce sheer terror into a bird that has become all-too-common in many urban areas.

The tape and an accompanying leaflet are now being offered by the University of California as a safe and effective way to drive away the pesky birds. "Crow roosts—containing from one hundred to many thousands of birds—can be major nuisances around residential areas, shopping centers, office complexes, and anywhere else people live, work and play," said Paul Gorenzel, a UC researcher who has studied the problem and developed the package. "Crow droppings foul buildings, sidewalks and vehicles, creating a potential health hazard. And the noise they make can be very annoying and disruptive."

Controlling Urban Crow Roosts with Taped Distress Calls has been designed with this in mind so that virtually anyone with the proper tools—a tape player and protective gear—can drive crows away from nighttime roosting sites. The distress call tricks the birds into thinking one of their group is being attacked by a predator. Dispersing crows with this audiotape requires no specialized equipment and does not require federal, state, or local permits. The technique has been proven effective by UC researchers.

The accompanying brochure explains in detail how and when to use the tape and gives valuable background information about where, why and how crows roost, their diet, range and other important crow facts. The tape is stored in a protective pocket inside the brochure.

To order *Controlling Urban Crow Roosts with Taped Distress Calls*, contact the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources at (800) 994-8849 or (510)642-2431. Catalog item #21561 sells for \$10.50. Add \$1 for handling, plus \$3 shipping for one tape and 50 cents for each additional tape and brochure. Or mail checks (payable to UC Regents) to UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Communication Services—Publications, 6701 San Pablo Avenue, 2nd Floor, Oakland, CA 94608-1239. FAX orders can be placed to (510)643-5470. □



THE SUBTROPICAL GARDEN

Gil Hanly, Photographs

Jacqueline Walker, Text

Portland, Timber Press, 1996, 176 pages, 197 color photos, 8½" x 11", paperback, \$24.95

There is a good reason why top billing goes to the photographer of this book. The beauty of plant form and the artistry of landscape design are stunningly captured in the color plates that illustrate a text rich in specific information and encouragement to experiment to find the wisdom for one's own garden.

This is a book to curl up with on a rainy day, or even during a Santa Ana, to nurture a taste for exotic plants that will thrive in a warm climate. It is introduced by a lengthy essay on the total scope of subtropical gardening, covering such vital aspects as location, soils, fertilizing, and a no-fear approach to garden design. At the end is a list of other books that focus on specific types of plants and an extensive plant index. In between are two large sections oriented toward how an exotic garden looks . . . and acts.

Plant architecture, the visual impact of plants that define a garden, is the lead section with chapters on palms, bamboo, tree ferns, flowering trees, and a general survey of architectural form and foliage. Growing young specimens in containers so that they can be easily moved about is one of the suggestions for experimentation that the author encourages so enthusiastically. Her point is carried in photos depicting landscapes both carefully arranged and seemingly planted at random.

The second section is devoted to what the author calls "soft furnishings": climbers, shrubs, water and bog plants, and ferns. The flamboyant foliage and varied textures of these plants are treated as accents as well as fillers. Shrubs are offered as a "dispensable option" in bold architectural landscapes, but the fact that their intense colors are absorbed and balanced in lush foliage often makes them irresistible in the exotic garden. Shrubs described here are mostly evergreen, spreading, sprawling, or upright to no more than ten feet. Specific plant descriptions throughout the book are provided in narrative form, with many small color plates to illustrate them up close or as combined landscape.

The variety and dramatic beauty of orchids and bromeliads are essential to the subtropical garden, especially, as their enthusiasts insist, because they are so easy to grow. This book

proves that they also make fantastic photo subjects! Another advantage is that they can be grown in the tiniest of gardens, lending an exotic touch to anything from a bathroom to a condo patio.

Southern California readers will recognize many plants described in this book from their visits to local botanical gardens, especially the San Diego Zoo, Wild Animal Park, and Quail Botanical Garden. The author's encouragement for individual experimentation and sharing of experiences is acknowledged as a means to expanding the field of subtropical plant knowledge as well as adding to the joy of gardening.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

THE ULTIMATE GARDEN DESIGNER

Tim Newberry

New York, Sterling Publishing Co. Inc., 1996, 256 pages, 190 color illustrations, 400 b&w illustrations, 7¼" x 10¼", softcover, \$19.95

This is a good design book. Whether one is looking for a low-maintenance, jungly foliage, or classic design they are all covered in this well written and illustrated book. Each different type of design is discussed in a separate chapter. Not only are there layouts, but there are excellent three-dimensional drawings plus sketches of how the design would look from the main viewing place.

Gardeners interested in low-maintenance will find excellent garden designs—large and small and formal and informal—using gravel and paving stones. There are wonderful water features of all kinds incorporated into the designs. Gardens for every use are included, even designs for handicapped. Construction, planting, and plants are identified, described, and illustrated.

Tim Newberry is a well-known British landscape architect and his gardens have won three gold medals at the famous Chelsea Flower Show. British climate and soil are not the same as San Diego's, but the pictures and descriptions of the plant material in the designs are excellent and one should be able to substitute plant material that grows well here.

Reviewed by Barbara S. Jones

THE COMPLETE POND BUILDER: Creating a Beautiful Water Garden

Helen Nash

New York, Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., 1996, 144 pages, 200 color photos, 70 b&w sketches, 8¼" x 10¼", hardcover, \$27.95

If you are planning to build a pond, everything you need to know is included in this excellent book. There are even tables so the amounts of cement, brick, gravel, and pipe needed can be determined. Not only are the pictures clear and the instructions complete and readable, but handy hints are included in the margins.

There are many books about building ponds but this one has special features included. There is a section on aquatic plants and on other pond features, such as bridges, statues, and waterfalls. Another section has sketches to show how to move large rocks, spread cement, etc. There are instructions, pictures, and diagrams for constructing bio-filters for ponds that need special water treatment, such as koi ponds. If you want a semi-permanent pond, there are detailed instructions for using pre-formed ponds or for using pond lining materials. The pros and cons of each type are explained.

Helen Nash is the owner of an aquatic plant business and is the author of the highly acclaimed *The Pond Doctor* and a monthly newsletter *The Practical Pond Keeper*. She is a respected professional with a national reputation. All types of ponds, even the huge dirt ones, are covered in this book.

Reviewed by Barbara S. Jones

MINIATURE ROSES: Their Care and Cultivation

Sean McCann

London, Cassell, Distributed by Sterling Press, 1996, 144 pages, 121 color illustration, 10 b&w illustrations, 8 1/2" x 11", softcover, \$19.95

Volumes have been written about all aspects of roses, their origin, culture, and beauty. Except an occasional short chapter or brief reference little has been written about the miniature rose. This author traces the history of miniatures back through the centuries giving examples of earlier miniature plants but much credit is usually given to a rose 'Rouletii' as the basis for the present class. The surge of interest in the use of miniature roses began in the United States during the 1970s due in a large part to the vision and dedication of Ralph Moore of Visalia, California. Known by his peers as the "Father of Modern Miniature Roses," Ralph has been hybridizing for sixty years and the American Rose Society lists three hundred roses created by Ralph, now ninety years of age. Creation of new varieties and types of miniature roses continues by amateur hybridizers, who are delighted by their ability to produce these plants in their yards without special equipment. This enthusiasm has never waned and the results have been outstanding.

This is a revised edition of an earlier work and new outstanding colored pictures of newer varieties now popular throughout the world are included. Information on cultivation, propagation, and pest and disease management is included and well illustrated. The author included his personal list of favorites. Many of these are readily available in our local nurseries as they originated in the United States.

Reviewed by Marianne D. Truby

NATIVE ORCHIDS OF BELIZE

I. Mc Leish, N. R. Pearce, and B. R. Adams

Rotterdam, A.A. Balkema, 1995, 295 pages, 8" x 11 1/4", 238 color photos, 120 b&w line drawings, hardcover, \$85

The first seventeen pages of this very authoritative study will prepare you for what to expect when you enter into the classification and detailed study of the orchid species of Belize. The geographical description is presented with such detailed accuracy that it enables one almost to feel the humidity, see the clear waters, and sense the air of this small tropical country that is part of the Yucatan Peninsula that projects northward from the Central American mainland. The rainfall, birds, and tropical breezes are all necessary for fine orchid growing. We do note that there are a multitude of orchid species in this small country. Belize has a program to try to conserve, pollinate, and propagate, and maintain the growth of the orchid species of Belize.

This is a very scientific book. The line drawings and descriptions of the species are well presented. The color plates appear to be very accurate as to the true natural color of each flower. I would recommend this book for research and as an aide to the identification of species you might have in your

collection. The book is of fine quality paper, well bound and the price is right. One will get a great deal of information for the money.

Reviewed by Ardell O. Marlin

PLANTERS, CONTAINERS AND RAISED BEDS

Chuck Crandall and Barbara Crandall

New York, Sterling Press, 1996, 144 pages in color, 8 1/2" x 10", hardcover, \$24.95

The Crandalls' book is truly a comprehensive guide to small landscapes of every type. Landscaping in small spaces is often the first step toward a full-on case of gardening addiction, which is why the basics of building permanent and portable planters is a good place to start. The Crandalls provide examples that are pleasing to the eye and suitable for all levels of design and construction skills. Window boxes, driveway dividers, and raised beds of many types are shown with diagrams and photos of how to build them. The only material I noted missing was broken concrete, but there are complete instructions for building unmortared stone planters. (Perhaps Californians are the only ones who recycle old sidewalks.)

For those who would rather buy or scrounge, there is a beautiful section on "Containers—Conventional & Unconventional" that shows small areas nearly completely landscaped with containers. Moving along to the heavier stuff is a chapter on raised beds, which includes terraced gardens with retaining walls for flowers and vegetables. Detailed information regarding construction and irrigation is also given.

Now that you have the place to plant, what do you put into it? This is where the "gardening guide" comes in. A very comprehensive survey of plants, shrubs, and trees offers a variety of uses for pots and planters. Here also is where design comes into play, with collections of succulents, dwarf trees with annuals, and interestingly pruned trees shown in a variety of mini-landscapes.

Pages of plant lists follow, grouped effectively for user friendliness, with a variety of descriptive categories. The one for flowering and foliage plants provides data on height, blooming time, color, and days to germination. The bulb list includes planting depth, colors, season, and when to plant. A long list of vegetables, fruits, and berries gives season, pot size, plants per pot, space between plants, exposure, moisture, and days to harvest.

All this information would be very useful for any gardener as would the following chapter on soil mixes and fertilizers, which thoroughly explores commercial potting soil, "soilless" synthetic mixes, and blending your own planting mixes. Next comes instruction on how to plant and care for trees and shrubs, pruning and thinning, and dealing with pests and diseases. This section includes a great photo of ladybugs "feasting on aphids" plus tables of organic controls for plant diseases and pests.

A unique chapter in this book is the one on "Staying Legal/Working with Professionals," which explores the murky lands of building permits and variances and the search for reliable architects and contractors. At 144 pages, including the index, this attractive small book goes well beyond the promise of its cover and would be a perfect gift for any neophyte gardener.

Reviewed by Marge Howard-Jones

CANYON PARK WILL BLOOM

THE QUESTHAVEN-HARMONY GROVE fire last October burned toward the ocean from Escondido to La Costa-Carlsbad. One hundred homes burned. Fire fighters were too few to protect all those endangered. This brief story grows from the ashes and neighbors coming together that fiery night.

Donna and Bill Wright, living at the end of Solano Street, north of La Costa Avenue, were ordered out three times. Two blocks from them, houses burned to the ground.

They, like thousands of Southern Californians, have a canyon filled with interesting native plants just over the fence and a creek at the bottom when it rains.

Months earlier, Donna, an ardent gardener, had cleared behind their home down to the stream. This night, at 11:00 PM, she saw flames—later measured to have been thirty feet from their lot. (She is still finding fist-sized chunks of what were flying embers in the garden.) “Thank goodness for the tile-like ‘shake’ roof!” she says.

Earlier, firemen indicated they couldn’t stay to protect Solano Street. Donna tells of looking up when the fire was two blocks away and she saw a line of thirty-five people with shovels and chain saws ready to do what the firemen could not.



Manzanita burned in an earlier fire, but resprouting.

What happened after the fire matters. Donna asked the City of Carlsbad engineer if neighbors could replant the three blackened acres, north of La Costa Avenue—a community park with a much-used dog walk. The whole area up to the La Costa Country Club burned. The engineer said the community certainly could, as long as they did nothing to irritate the environment. The Parks and Recreation Department sent truck loads of organic mulch.

Twenty-four neighbors gathered to work, including some in their teens. They planted the slopes to wildflowers, some perennials, and drought-resistant shrubs. They scattered and scratched in California poppy, lupine, South African daisy (yellow and orange *Dimorphotheca*) seed, the bulbs *Chasmanthe* and diminutive blue star flower (*Ipheion*). Donna added pride of Madeira (*Echium*) shrubs and sea lavender (*Limonium*).

“They’re up!” The rains helped the seeds sprout and everything got off to a good start. The burned native shrubs are growing out from the base.

If you’re in the neighborhood (between El Camino Real and Rancho Santa Fe Road), take a look at what a community can do, working together. BN

KATE SESSIONS MEMORIAL REPLACED by JANE FIELD ALEXANDER

ON OCTOBER 10, 1996, at 10 a.m., the ceremonial replacement of a missing memorial to Kate O. Sessions began. The event took place in Balboa Park close to an incense cedar tree near what is now the Hall of Nations and west of the Organ Pavilion, the same area where the San Diego Floral Association had placed the original stone and plaque dedicated to Kate in 1941.

A large terra cotta rock (too big to be casually stolen, it is hoped) had been put there some days earlier. The rock holds a plaque, fastened thereon with considerable labor by L. Allen Alexander, wearing the same dedication as the original:

In Memoriam
Kate O. Sessions
Horticulturist
1857-1940

San Diego Floral Association

PLUS the names of other contributing garden clubs: Grossmont, La Jolla, Mira Costa Horticultural, Point Loma, San Carlos, and Village La Jolla.

Many thanks to all those who worked to make this possible, including individual donors, Kathy Puplava of the Balboa Park staff, and especially Rita Kuehn of San Carlos G.C., who pushed for the *fait accompli*!

San Carlos ladies furnished refreshments, City Councilwoman Judy McCarty congratulated us, and Channel 8 videotaped the whole thing (forty seconds on the evening news).

Surplus funds were donated to City Beautiful and their plan for a life-sized statue in the park of wonderful Kate. May we all live to see the day!□

Jane Field Alexander played a large part in organizing the plaque replacement.



SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library - Founded in 1907

2125 Park Boulevard, San Diego CA 92101-4792

619/232-5762, located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park

Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

GENERAL MEETINGS 1997

April 15

June 17

October 21

5:45 p.m.

Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

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Pres: Rudy Cesena 578-0748

P. O. Box 26729

San Diego CA 92196-0729

CITY BEAUTIFUL OF SAN DIEGO

In Memory of Ruth Smith

Pres: Mary Vaughn 234-9856

P. O. Box 80878

San Diego CA 92138-0878

PALOMAR DISTRICT

CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Dir: Marty Peterson 743-3832

1140 Conway Drive

Escondido CA 92027-1467

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S HORTICULTURE AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION (PWHLA)

Pres: Cindy Benoit 436-9505

P. O. Box 3456

San Diego CA 92163-1456

Last Tue - Sep/Nov/Feb/Apr

6:30 pm, Casa del Prado

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS

FOUNDATION, INC

Pres: Joyce Wilder 436-3036

P. O. Box 230005

Encinitas CA 92023-0005

SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN

FOUNDATION

President

2125 Park Boulevard

San Diego CA 92101-4792

SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL

Chr: Joyce Zwemke 287-3424

7735 Larchwood Way

San Diego CA 92120-1514

1st Wed - 10:00 am, Casa del Prado

Jan, May, Sept, Nov

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

CLASSIC GARDENS

459-0316

P. O. Box 2711

La Jolla CA 92038-2711

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The West Coast's Best 792-4273

June 17 through July 6, 1997

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Pres: Carlette Anderson 445-4569

2451 Night Star Court

Alpine CA 91901-1449

1st Fri - 10:00 am, Home of Members

BERNARDO GARDENERS GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Mrs. Virginia Fackler 451-3923

12606 Calle Tamega #91

San Diego CA 92128-1580

3rd Thu - 1:30 pm, Joslyn Senior Center,

Rancho Bernardo

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Norma Illingworth 479-3478

4822 Whippoorwill Lane

Bonita CA 91902-1724

2nd Wed - 9:30 am, Rohr Park Manor,

Sweetwater Road

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Than Craddock 435-4236

513 H Avenue

Coronado CA 92118-1623

4th Mon - 9:30 am, Winn Room,

Coronado Public Library

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Alice Miller 721-6884

2650 Garfield Street

Carlsbad CA 92008-2216

1st Fri - 1:00 pm, Sep thru Jun,

Heritage Hall, Magee Park

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Mrs. Theodore Felber 427-3184

1272 Pecan Place

Chula Vista CA 91911-3731

3rd Thu - 1:00 pm, Norman Park Senior Center

CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Virginia Soderberg 582-7098

6197 Arno Drive

San Diego CA 92120-4628

1st Wed - 7:00 pm, Home of Members

CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Pres: Mr. David E. Sigsworth 435-5028

P. O. Box 180188

Coronado CA 92118-0188

CROWN GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Suzanne Heap 435-5530

620 First Street

Coronado CA 92118-1202

4th Thu - 9:30 am, Coronado Library

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Sarah Beers 749-2140

P. O. Box 123

Valley Center CA 92082-0123

2nd Tue - 12:30 pm, Valley Center Com. Hall

ESCONDIDO GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Jerry Doughty 743-1879

705 Idaho Avenue

Escondido CA 92025-6304

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Betty Henry 731-0706

P. O. Box 1702

Fallbrook CA 92028-0926

FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB

Chrm: Mrs. Richard A. Burt 299-6742

1300 W. Walnut Avenue

San Diego CA 92103-4722

2nd Mon - 10:30 am, Home of Members

GROSSMONT GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Mrs. Sheila Hauserman 460-0387

6880 Hyde Park Drive #A

San Diego CA 92119-2236

2nd Mon - 9:30 am, 4975 Memorial Drive,

All area codes are 619 unless otherwise noted.

CLUB AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES (CONTINUED)

La Mesa		9463 Quail Canyon Road		910 Fern Street	
LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB		El Cajon CA 92021-6709		Escondido CA 92027-1708	
Pres: Mrs. Francis S. Blankenship	454-4109	4th Thu - 10:00 am, Torrey Pines Christian Church, LJ		Last Sat - 10:30 am, Home of Members	
5427 Taft Avenue				BONSAI	
La Jolla CA 92037-7641		THE VISTA GARDEN CLUB		HON NON BO ASSOCIATION	
3rd Tue - 1:30 pm, L.J. Lutheran Church		Pres: Betty Larson	727-0731	Pres: Lit Phan	
LAKESIDE GARDEN CLUB		1390 Andorra Court		P. O. Box 235	
Pres: Mildred Digenan	443-1529	Vista CA 92083-5017		Alpine CA 91903-0235	
P. O. Box 122		1st Fri - 12:00 pm, Vista Senior Center		1st Sun every other month (begin Feb)	
Lakeside CA 92040-0122				10:30 am, Casa del Prado	
3rd Mon - 2:00 pm, Lakeside Historical Church, 9906 Maine Avenue		IKEBANA SCHOOLS		SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.	
LAS JARDINERAS		ICHIYO SCHOOL OF IKEBANA		Pres: Lew Buller	576-0515
Pres: Alicia Elliott		SAN DIEGO CHAPTER		P. O. Box 40037	
2018 Pheasant Run		Pres: Haruko Crawford	660-2046	San Diego CA 92164-0037	
Fallbrook CA 92028-4345		10411 San Carlos Drive		2nd Sun - 11:00 am, Casa del Prado	
3rd Mon - 10:30 am, Home of Members		Spring Valley CA 91978-1034		BROMELIAD	
MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY		IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119	279-2511	BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK	
Pres: Mr. Patrick Shields	724-3749	Pres: Yoshie Sesma		Pres: Ken Campos	
1215 Amador Avenue		2422 Harcourt Drive		5033 Hilda Road	
Vista CA 92083-5621		San Diego CA 92123-3608		San Diego CA 92110-1536	
4th Sat - 1:00 pm, MiraCosta Community College, Horticulture Building #T-700		4th Wed - 10:00 am, Casa del Prado		2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado	
MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB		IKENOBO CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO	278-5689	SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY	538-3459
Pres: Helen Odum	743-1921	Pres: Mrs. Charles Oehler		Pres: John McDonald	
1253 Nordahl Road		2822 Walker Drive		P. O. Box 83996	
Escondido CA 92026-2108		San Diego CA 92123-3056		San Diego CA 92138-3996	
3rd Sat - 1:00 pm, MiraCosta Community College, Student Center Bldg (upstairs)		OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA		4th Wed - 7:00 pm, Casa del Prado	
PACIFIC BEACH GARDEN CLUB		LA JOLLA CHAPTER	672-7850	Nov & Dec ONLY, 3rd Wed	
Pres: Mrs. Dale S. Munda	272-9727	Pres: Connie Davis		NORTH COUNTY BROMELIAD SOCIETY	
1544 Oliver Avenue		P. O. Box 500765		Pres: Morlane O'Donnell	422-8168
San Diego CA 92109-5321		San Diego CA 92150-0765		4th Sun - 1:00 pm, Ecke Building, Quail Gardens	
2nd Mon - 1:00 pm, Recreation Center		2nd Tues - 10:00 am		CACTUS & SUCCULENT	
POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB		OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA		PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY	
Pres: Elaine Marshall	223-8708	SAN DIEGO CHAPTER	276-4667	Pres: Paul Seward	486-0535
1407 Santa Barbara Street		Pres: Mrs. Walter Bourland		12620 Tustin Street	
San Diego CA 92107-3930		2936 Havasupai Avenue		Poway CA 92064-6037	
2nd Wed - 10:00 am, Westminster Presby Church		San Diego CA 92117-1641		4th Sat - 12:45 pm, Joslyn Sr Ctr, Escondido	
POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB		SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA		SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY	
Pres: Colleen Michell	485-8170	SAN DIEGO BRANCH	429-6198	Pres: Mr. Joseph Betzler	569-8510
P. O. Box 27		Sumiko Lahey, Master Instructor		P. O. Box 33181	
Poway CA 92074-0027		2829 Flax Drive		San Diego CA 92163-3181	
RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB		San Diego CA 92154-2160		2nd Sat - 1:00 pm, Casa del Prado	
Pres: Bob Cleary	756-3226	PLANT SOCIETIES:		CAMELLIA	
Hort Chrm: Mrs. Carol Streeter		AFRICAN VIOLETS		SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY	454-6659
P. O. Box 1692		HEARTLAND AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY	561-2280	Pres: Gene Snooks	
Rancho Santa Fe CA 92067-1692		Pres: Claire Peck		6114 La Jolla Boulevard	
2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Garden Club		12044 Royal Road		La Jolla CA 92037-6702	
SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB		El Cajon CA 92021-		3rd Wed - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado	
Pres: Dorothy Driscoll	463-6700	3rd Tue - 7:00 pm, Wells Park Ctr, El Cajon		DAHLIA	
6338 Athabaska Place		SAN DIEGO DAYTIME		SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY	223-6000
San Diego CA 92119-3527		AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY		Pres: Ruth Kern	
4th Tue - 9:30 am, Home of Members		2nd Mon - 1:00 pm, Christ United Methodist Church, 33rd Street and Meade		1665 Froude Street	
SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB		BEGONIA		San Diego CA 92107-3555	
Pres: Clara Ziegler	943-8005	ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH		4th Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado	
3482 Sitio Borde		AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY	222-1294	EPIPHYLLUM	
Carlsbad CA 92009-8925		Pres: Doris Smith		SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY	491-9495
4th Wed - 9:30 am, Quail Bot. Gardens		4505 Long Branch Avenue		Pres: Phil Peck	
SCRIPPS MESA GARDEN CLUB		San Diego CA 92107-2333		P. O. Box 632911	
Pres: Cindy Drake	271-8933	2nd Tue - 10:30 am, Home of Members		San Diego CA 92163-2911	
9842 Hibert Street #276		PALOMAR BRANCH	262-7535	2nd Wed - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado	
San Diego CA 92131-1096		AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY		FERN	
4th Mon - 6:00 pm, Scripps Ranch Library		Pres: Michael Ludwig		SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY	792-5662
THE VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA		6040 Upland Street		Pres: Donald Callard	
Pres: Laura Hoke	390-9908	San Diego CA 92114-1933		2201 El Amigo Road	
		SAN MIGUEL BRANCH		Del Mar CA 92014-3027	
		AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY	746-4743		
		Pres: Mrs. Eleanor Calkins			

CLUB AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES (CONTINUED)

3rd Thu - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

FRUIT

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS

Pres: Paul Phillips 670-9867
4339 Resmar Road
La Mesa CA 91941-6920

4th Thu - 7:00 pm, Casa del Prado
Nov & Dec ONLY, 3rd Thu

FUCHSIA & SHADE PLANTS

SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA AND

SHADE PLANT SOCIETY

Pres: Richard Hubbell 443-3706
15420 Olde Highway 80, Space 175
El Cajon CA 92021-2427
2nd Mon - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

GERANIUM

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY

Pres: Cynthia Pardoe 442-1944
1105 Randon Road
El Cajon CA 92020-7742
2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

HEMEROCALLIS

SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY

Pres: Nancy Webb
9382 Vons Drive
Garden Grove CA 92641-1156
1st Sat - 10:00 am, Quail Gardens

HERB

THE HERB CLUB

Pres: Judy Dunning 669-0222
15255 Lyons Valley Road
Jamul CA 91935-3416
1st Thu - 7:00 pm, Call for location

HOYA

SAN DIEGO HOYA GROUP

c/o: Harriette Schapiro 273-4267
5217 Cassandra Lane
San Diego CA 92109-1314
North County 758-4290

IRIS

SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES

IRIS SOCIETY

Pres: George Bange 571-1154
3493 Mt. Aachen Avenue
San Diego CA 92111-4526
2nd Sun - 1:00 pm - Jan/Mar/May/
Jun/Aug/Nov - Joslyn Sr Ctr,
18402 West Bernardo Road, RB

IVY

THE AMERICAN IVY SOCIETY

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

1st Mon - Casa del Prado

NATIVE PLANTS

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Pres: Cindy Burrascono 685-7321
P. O. Box 1390
San Diego CA 92112-1390
3rd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado
LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
Pres: Dorothy Frisbie 741-0829
2315 Paterson Road
Escondido CA 92027-3812
4th Mon - 2:00 pm - 16789 Bernardo Oaks Dr.,
Seven Oaks Community Center, RB

ORCHID

CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Pres: Ardell Marlin 753-6952
310 Seeman Drive
Encinitas CA 92024-2840
3rd Wed - 7:00 pm, Carlsbad Woman's Club
SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
Pres: Fred Weber 982-9128
P. O. Box 161020
San Diego CA 92176-1020
1st Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

ORGANIC

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Norma DeMart 466-9398
3891 Rogers Road
Spring Valley CA 91977-1212
3rd Tue - 7:00 pm, Bonita Valley Baptist Church

PALM

THE INTERNATIONAL PALM SOCIETY

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

Pres: Phil Bergman 291-4605
Please call for Meeting dates

ROSE

EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY

Pres: Coe Applegate 670-0644
3976 Agua Dulce Boulevard
La Mesa CA 91941-7044
1st Sun - 2:00 pm, Gardens of Members
SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Phil Ash 235-0004
P. O. Box 86124
San Diego CA 92138-6124
3rd Mon - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

TREES

PEOPLE FOR TREES

Pres: Lily Hursh 234-TREE
P. O. Box 505 FAX 687-0151
San Diego CA 92112-0505
4th Tue - 6:30 pm, 743 Imperial Avenue

WATER GARDEN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY

Contact: Walter Pagels 582-5408
6073 Lancaster Drive
San Diego CA 92120-4536



AFFILIATES:

Send changes to: Lynn Beyerle,
Affiliates Editor *California Garden*,
2125 Park Boulevard,
San Diego CA 92101-4792.
Call 232-5762. Deadline for
May-Jun issue: Mar 15, 1997.

Are you aware that each affiliate group is entitled to a free advertisement once each year? It should be "camera ready" (suitable to be sent to printer). The text should be enclosed in a border. The border must be included when measuring dimensions, which are to be 3.6 (3 3/8) inches wide by 2.25 (2 1/4) inches high. If done on a computer, please use a font that does not resemble typewriting.



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9:00 A.M. SATURDAY MORNINGS

Flower & Garden Show

at the

Del Mar Fair

June 17 - July 6, 1997

Featuring Landscape Gardens, Specimen
Blooms and Floral Arrangements

Call for entry information
Del Mar Flower & Garden Show (619) 792-4273

**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION TOUR
RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC
GARDEN PLUS ORCHIDS!
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1997**

We will have a docent-led tour of this 85-acre botanic garden, which comes to life each year between February and June. There is a section featuring California's wildflowers that start blooming around mid-March (California poppies, meadow foam, gillias, brodiaeas, clarkias, etc.).

The plant community section is arranged to reflect natural geographic associations. There is a Riparian Trail (deciduous trees and water-loving plants alongside a stream and pond), a Desert Garden (succulents, shrubs, and all of the state's cactus species), a Forest Section having the majority of the fifty-four species of conifers that grow in California, and a Chaparral Area with magnificent manzanita and ceanothus. The latter should be in bloom during our visit.

More than a quarter of all known species of native North American plants are represented; however, the main focus is on California natives. The Demonstration Garden is especially lovely and the Herbarium contains countless species. There are signed nature trails winding throughout the entire garden.

After lunch (on your own), we will visit Dick Swift's Orchids, where you may browse and/or make purchases.

**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Dick Swift's Orchids
WEDNESDAY, March 26, 1997**

- ☐ \$26.00 Members (who pay dues to SDFA)
 - ☐ \$29.00 Non-members, members of affiliates
- Lunch on your own

Make checks payable to
San Diego Floral Association
Mail to San Diego Floral Association
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, California 92101-4792

Please include a stamped/addressed envelope

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number:

PICK-UPS

- ☐ Red Lobster Park/Ride, Grossmont Center, La Mesa 7:30AM
- ☐ Mission Valley on Camino del Este south of B/A 8:00AM
- ☐ Park/Ride lot at intersection of Hwy 78 and Broadway in Escondido 8:30AM

**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
BASKETRY, TOPIARY,
AND FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES
CASA DEL PRADO, ROOM 104, BALBOA PARK
9:30AM to 2:30PM**

Bring mechanics and a lunch, coffee will be provided
CALL 232-5762 or 298-5182

Prepayment is **MANDATORY**

Basket Craft Classes

BASKETRY INFORMATION SEMINAR to discuss sources for materials, types of baskets to be considered for future classes, etc., lead by Marie Walsh

Tuesday, March 4, **Free**

MAKE A "HAPPY BASKET", 3 Ring or 2 Handle Fruit Basket

Tuesdays, April 8 & 15

Instructors, Martha Rosenberg and Kathy Walsh,
Fee \$40.00 to all for two classes, Materials provided

Topiary

EASTER TOPIARY-SUCCULENT TURTLE

Tuesday, March 11

Instructor Kathy Walsh, Materials provided

Fee \$40.00 to all

Flower Arranging

**AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY FLOWER
ARRANGING,**

Tuesdays, March 18, 25, April 1

Instructor, Velma West, Limited to first 25 registered
Fee \$40.00 to all for 3 classes.

No materials provided.

INTRODUCTION TO "ART ALIVE":

open to those arrangers participating ART ALIVE, which is to be held on April 30-May 4 in San Diego Museum of Art

Tuesday, April 22

Instructor, Adrienne Green, No materials provided

FEE \$20.00 to all

CLASSES

- ☐ Basketry Information Seminar, Free
- ☐ Make a Happy Basket, \$40.00
- ☐ Easter Topiary, \$40.00
- ☐ American Contemporary Flower Arranging, \$40.00
- ☐ Introduction to ART ALIVE Arranging, \$20.00

Amount enclosed Make check payable to San Diego Floral Association.

SEND TO: San Diego Floral Association, 2125 Park Blvd., San Diego CA 92101-4792 (classroom is not at this address)

NAME

PHONE

ADDRESS

CITY, ZIP

COMMUNICATIONS . . .

WE WELCOME LETTERS PERTAINING TO GARDENS!

ERRATA

Volume 88 No. 1, January- February 1997

page 8 — second paragraph, spelling should be [*Dracaena draco*]

page 12 — All names of rose cultivars should be enclosed in single quotes, such as 'Angel Face'.

page 18 — In "Natives," under **TO CHECK**, spelling should be *Periploca ceanothiella*

page 19 — Where "persea" is used as the common name for the mite, should read "persea mite," as "*Persea*" is the genus to which avocados belong.

page 20 — Letter from John M. Sandy—apologies to Mr. Sandy for spoiling his joke with a typo instead of a quotation mark next to one appearance of his name.

We request comments from readers who feel that we have provided incorrect information. The goal is to give readers the best gardening knowledge available.

Now Is the Time

Last issue, we asked for assistance on "Now Is the Time" information on herbs. Good news! John Noble has enlisted in our cause. John has been gardening in San Diego for twelve years. Eleven years ago, in partnership with Jodi Shagg, he started the business "In Harmony Herbs and Spices." Seven years ago, he began operating "Coastal Sage Gardening," specializing in natives and herbs.

John is self-taught, to some degree, in the art of growing plants, but he has also attended classes in various settings, including Mesa College. He particularly wants to recommend his teachers at Mesa, Erica Specht and Pam Chapman.

John now teaches classes himself in herb garden design, works with drip irrigation, organic fruits and vegetables, compost systems, writes a newsletter, etc. He was involved in the development of Point Loma Garden Club's Point Loma Native Plant Preserve.

Regarding the book, *CHULA VISTA'S TREES*

To the Editor:

I regret that there was a misunderstanding about my role in assisting John Rojas with his book, *Chula Vista's Trees* [reviewed in JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1997 issue]. The use of my name, as it appears on the acknowledgement page, is misleading. I must hereby disclaim any responsibility for any of the errors or photo choices that appear on its pages. Others listed on the

acknowledgement page have been surprised as I to see the roles ascribed to them in their collaboration with Mr. Rojas, but these persons must speak for themselves in registering their dismay.

Sincerely,

Carol Greentree

1997 WILDFLOWER CONFERENCE

APRIL 17, 18, and 19—BAKERSFIELD, CALIF. OPERATION WILDFLOWER IS a project of the National Council of State Garden Clubs. It is dedicated to the beautification of millions of acres of roadsides and other approved sites, as well as the education of the public in the appreciation, preservation, and propagation of native wildflowers and grasses.

The semiannual Wildflower Conference will be hosted this year by The Bakersfield Green Thumb Garden Club at the Red Lion Hotel in Bakersfield, California, April 17 through April 19, 1997. Educational displays are open 12:00-5:00 PM Thursday, 4:00-5:00 PM Friday, and 8:00 AM-5:00 PM Saturday.

Friday's activities center on a bus tour and lunch at Tehachapi's Mourning Cloak Ranch and Botanical Gardens, wildflower viewing, and photo stops.

Banquet programs are scheduled each evening; Thursday's speaker is Bart W. O'Brien, Director of Horticulture at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, and Ronald A. Coleman, author and photographer of *The Wild Orchids of California* is the Friday night speaker. Programs will be given during the day Saturday. The banquet speaker will be George Hartwell, CALTRANS office of Landscape Architecture.

The charge for registration, two lunches, three dinners and the tour appears to be \$133.00, plus room (which isn't listed in our information). For a registration form, or for more information, call or write Helen Maas, Wildflower Conference Chairman at (805) 872-2188; 4616 Pico Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93306-3546. □

COVER: Pictured on the left is *Carnegiea gigantea* (saguaro or sahuaro) of Arizona, California, and Mexico. This majestic cactus of the southwestern deserts may reach a height of fifty feet. The five-inch-wide flowers open at night and last only one day.

On the right is *Opuntia bigelovii* (teddy bear cholla, jumping cholla) of Arizona, Nevada, California, and northern Mexico. This densely-spined desert plant may grow from 2-8 feet. It has flowers in spring of various colors, followed by large, yellow fruits.

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bellflowers

Coronado Floral Association 72nd Flower Show

"Let There Be Music"

April 12 - 13, 1997

Saturday 1-5:30 and Sunday 10-4

In Coronado at Spreckels Park
between 6th and 7th Streets on Orange Avenue

Amateur entries welcomed in all sections
of Horticulture and Design

Coronado Visitors Bureau at 1-800-622-8300

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San Diego County Herb Resource Guide & Map

A comprehensive listing of 78 herb-related gardens, businesses
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Laura Emerick is a member of the Herb Society of America, The Herb
Club and the San Diego Floral Association. Images from the post card series
recently won Best of Show, First Place and Honorable Mention in the
Herb Society of America's First Annual Photographic Competition.

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

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The society meets the first Tuesday of every month at Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. Cultural classes start at 6:30 p.m. in the library, followed by the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in room 101. Refreshments, orchid display, and an orchid raffle follow the meeting.

All this and a great monthly newsletter for only \$10.00 (single membership) or \$12.50 (dual membership) per year. Don't delay, make your check out today to the SDCOS and mail to:



Vivian Follmer
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